



# THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

## Merchants Up in Arms Over Recent Store Thefts

By Denise Minor

It was a typical ploy. The man, unforgettable because of his Southern accent and missing front teeth, asked the sales clerk at Ocean Front Walkers on 24th Street to crawl up the ladder to bring down a hard-to-reach piece of clothing so he could look at it. While she pulled down the merchandise, he pulled a quick one and made off with the store's change envelope.

To top it off, sometime before or after the envelope heist, he slipped into the back room and grabbed the employee's wallet out of her purse. The total loss came to about \$170, said store owner Jack Epstein.

The worst part about it, according to Karla Clement, is that the theft could have been prevented. Clement is owner of the gift store Out of Hand at 1303 Castro Street. She says the same man stole \$125 from her cash register May 25, just two days before he hit Ocean Front Walkers.

"When I found out that the same guy did a similar scam two days later, I knew it was time to get organized," said Clement.

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*Shopkeepers Betty Grandis (left) and Karla Clement, alarmed at a series of store thefts in May, get together to discuss methods of quelling crime in the neighborhood. PHOTO BY ED BURYN*

During the last week in May, Clement walked store to store in Noe Valley's commercial district, enlisting new merchants for the "Noe News," a phone tree that police officer Lois Perillo had reactivated six months earlier. Via the phone tree, business owners alert one another immediately after they have experienced a shoplifting or robbery attempt.

"Say someone comes in and shoplifts. I would call the Pantry, and the person at the Pantry would call the next store in line, and so on," said Clement. "That way the word gets spread."

"It's not a vigilante kind of thing," she continued. "It just can help us smarter owners who watch more closely."

Although Noe News was in place before

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## Sifting Through the Ashes of Last Year's Duncan St. Fire

By Jeanne Alexander

It's been a year since that windy afternoon on June 30 when an arsonist torched the vacant house of David deLa Cruz at 655 Duncan Street, setting off the fire that engulfed the block and altered several lives. Although the arsonist has not been caught, the investigation is alive and things are still smoldering.

"The file is less than an arm's length away, behind my desk," says Inspector Joseph Kennedy of the San Francisco Police Department's Arson Task Force.

"In addition to my criminal investigation, there's a concurrent insurance investigation. And I believe that a civil lawsuit is brewing."

It is. Suzanne Gump, at 657 Duncan Street, is filing a negligence suit against deLa Cruz and Gina Tordjemain, co-owners of the house in which the fire started.

Kennedy declares that he hasn't given up on "finding the guy who lit the match." An artist's drawing of the suspect, produced from descriptions of wit-

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*The Singing Rainbows' rendition of "I'm a Reptile" has become a video co-starring this 12-foot python. From left are Peregrine Lannin-Honig, Vanessa Marshall, Ariana Dillon, leader Candy Forest, Julia Kenworthy, Lesa Cassidy, and Garnet Herndon. PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP*

## Singing Rainbows In Tune with The Earth

By Geraldine Lanier

Ecology and animal rights are hot issues all over the globe today. And environmental activists are doing their best to educate the public—through the media, at rallies and special events, and by changing school curriculums. But one activist group, the Singing Rainbows Youth Ensemble, conveys its ecological messages through original songs and music.

Noe Valley resident Candy Forest, a 42-year-old singer/musician, founded the performance group for children in the fall of 1987. Although she had been thinking about starting a music training program for some time, an 8-year-old friend,

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## "Homeless" Interview Is Just Bait for More Panhandlers

The following letters were inspired by an interview published on page 4 of the April Voice, titled "Living on the Street: One Homeless Person's Perspective." The same issue also included a front-page story, "Homelessness on the Home Front," which recorded the merchants' and local police reaction to the growing number of panhandlers and street people in Noe Valley.

My co-publisher, Jack Tipple, and I continue to stand by our effort to present a number of viewpoints on the "homeless" question—including the opinions of people with or without jobs, drug problems, or permanent residence in the neighborhood.

We also welcome further contributions to the debate. Please address correspondence to the Noe Valley Voice, 1021 Sanchez Street, San Francisco, 94114, and be sure to include your name, address, and phone number. (Unsigned letters will not be considered for publication.)

—Sally Smith, co-publisher/editor

### Editor:

Addicts, shoplifters, and muggers—welcome to Noe Valley, the land of opportunity!

Unfortunately, this was the message generated by the recent interview with "Gary," depicted as a polite, out-of-work lost soul meekly seeking a handout and a chance to become a productive member of society. A bit of research and a few pointed questions directed his way would have revealed his true being—a man who chooses this pathetic yet lucrative (according to him, \$20 per hour) lifestyle, abandoning the assistance and rehabilitative programs that the police and others, at great pains, have managed to secure for him.

The number of con artists working the neighborhood has mushroomed since the article appeared. We've been targeted by these people as "easy marks," and the situation escalates as stores fall victim to shoplifting, till-tapping, even armed robbery, while residents fall prey to muggings and assaults.

Certainly, Gary is not the perpetrator, but the biased and overly sympathetic treatment he received in the Voice broadcast the laid-back attitude we take toward opportunists and criminals. We are putting out a welcome mat for this element

## POEM

walking down the street  
with an eye on the pavement  
collecting rubber bands

I'm in charge of life and death  
he said  
I can put you on another planet

a man  
with hands like linoleum  
I was impressed

he said  
so much so fast  
I missed it

such responsibility  
and a shopping cart  
filled with faucets

—Julia Burt Williamson

A native of New Hampshire, Julia Burt Williamson moved to Noe Street two months ago.

## LETTERS 25¢

if we continue to give indiscriminately, fail to prosecute, or if we simply turn our backs and hope this will all go away.

If you enjoy shopping on 24th Street, be concerned—the merchants are not bottomless wells who can continue to have their profits "lifted" out the door, or wrested away at gunpoint. If you own a home, be concerned—values will decrease in proportion to a crime increase and lack of neighborhood shopping and services. If you just want to take a walk down the street, be concerned—you can't, without being stopped for money three times in one block and then three more times by the same people on your return trip. If you don't believe this could happen, take a trip around some of the other once-safe neighborhoods in this city.

D. Charles Kerner  
Noe Valley merchant

P.S. The merchants are organizing to combat this trend and protect themselves, but the vigilance, support, and assistance of the residents are crucial to effectively stem the tide.

### Editor:

I am not a person who normally becomes involved in political goings-on, but I feel compelled by recent events to speak up now.

I feel that you have done the people of Noe Valley a great disservice by printing the article featuring "Gary" as a victim of society instead of the derelict he has chosen to be.

I have discovered since you ran the "Gary" article that there has been an increase in shoplifting in the stores on 24th Street as well as on Castro. Coincidence? I think not.

The well-meaning people of Noe Valley have got to discard their rose-colored glasses and join the 1990s. Many homeless/beggars truly need assistance because of age or infirmity, but look at the people who are approaching us for money. Nearly all of them are able-bodied people who could work, but why should they? They prefer to walk around in our beautiful San Francisco weather and act as bunko artists stealing our hard-earned money.

If you feel you want to help people like Gary, you'd be better off giving directly to organizations which aid the homeless. By giving in that manner, you not only help these people but you also ensure that drug dealers and the crime that accompanies them will forever remain outside of Noe Valley.

Name withheld by request  
43-year Clipper Street resident

### Editor:

On the whole I find the Voice's level of journalism to far outstrip that of the Chronicle and Examiner, but I must complain about the knee-jerk liberal bias shown in your interview with Gary the panhandler. I am a liberal who believes that the short-sighted social policies of our government have wrought much human suffering and injustice, but it is a simple fact that some of the "homeless" people are simply lazy people. In the old

days they used to be called bums.

This fellow Gary, I have observed, has refused neighborly offers of help that came after your article, and he is still bumming. In the article, he admitted that he was lazy. Also, as a result of the article, more apparently able-bodied and well-spoken bums have come to live in Noe Valley because they are of the belief that all Noe Valleyans may think like you.

Although we first gave money to Gary, we no longer do so. Giving him nickels or quarters only prolongs the bumming. I'll save money for charities that try to feed and help the homeless, and also for the large number of truly needy homeless people who we see begging downtown.

David Kupferman  
Clipper Street resident

### Editor:

To encourage panhandlers with words or deeds only keeps them in this neighborhood. They bring with them crime and drugs with no thought of joining the workforce. I do not wish to be host to this type of parasite. Do you?

Craig Potter  
Noe Valley worker

## MERCHANTS FED UP WITH SHOPLIFTING

### Editor:

I would like to say that as a Noe Valley merchant, I am upset that an article would be written to virtually encourage, rather than discourage, panhandling in the Noe Valley community. Although I found the story interesting, I don't feel it was responsibly published. Crime and panhandling is a rising problem in the area and should be taken seriously.

I would like people to know that I plan to prosecute anyone I find shoplifting in my store and hope that other merchants will take the problem seriously enough to not let people go when a crime is committed. I hope you will present a picture of our community that can be taken seriously in the future.

Andrea Rothman  
The Pantry  
3901 24th Street

### Editor:

This is to let you know that, along with other neighborhood merchants, we have experienced a drastic rise in shoplifting during the past few months. It is obvious, due to the amount and nature of the items taken, that this can only be the work of professional thieves, who steal for a living and probably support expensive habits.

Our staff tries to maintain a cheerful, friendly attitude toward all our wonderful customers, but it's hard to remain open and trusting while being robbed so systematically.

Residents need to realize that our very special neighborhood is in immediate danger of serious degeneration.

We plan to prosecute fully anyone caught stealing and would welcome sug-

gestions and actions from other neighborhood residents and groups. Thank you for giving space to this important matter.

Marjory Panetti  
Panetti's Gifts  
3927 24th Street

### Editor:

I would like to see the San Francisco Police Department show as much concern for the security and safety of small businesses as it does for the "hot pursuit" of parking violations outside my store.

Frances Payne  
Bolivian Imports  
1302 Castro Street

### Editor:

It is Thrifty Drug's policy to prosecute to the fullest extent of the law regarding shoplifting.

During the last two years of my managing the store on 24th Street, there has been a great increase in shoplifting in this area. This is such a very nice area, and it is a shame for this crime to affect the whole neighborhood. We at Thrifty on 24th are now increasing our shoplifting protection officer coverage, and are currently planning to place a security checkpoint detection system, or camera surveillance system.

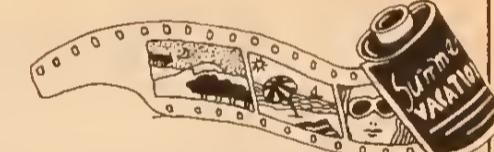
I feel that we have to work together as a community to try to rid ourselves of this recent bad influence. In order to do so, we need support from employees, customers, and the local police force.

Richard O'Lear  
Store manager, Thrifty Jr.  
4045 24th Street

### Editor:

As the manager of the local Walgreen's at Castro and Jersey, I am committed to providing the best goods at the most competitive prices with the highest standard of customer service. In view of the rising crime rate, I would also like to point out that we have a policy of prosecuting all shoplifters to the fullest extent of the law.

Steve Fuller  
Store manager, Walgreens  
1333 Castro Street



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## Looking for Places to Put Your Spare Change?

To give or not to give. That's the tough decision Noe Valley residents have to make almost daily, when greeted by panhandlers on 24th Street.

Some people's first impulse is to hand over their change and keep walking. But according to most experts, that money often goes to finance a repetition of the personal crisis that put the person on the street in the first place: drug or alcohol abuse.

"We go through a decision every time we encounter someone on the street and we ask ourselves, 'Am I giving money to somebody who's going to drink it away?'" says Bob Prentice, coordinator of the mayor's Homeless Council.

But there are alternatives to giving change to panhandlers or doing nothing at all, he says. One of the best options is to support the community organizations that provide food, clothing, shelter, substance abuse treatment, psychiatric services, and job counseling for the homeless and unemployed.

The mayor's advisory group is made up of representatives from a number of public and private agencies, including the Coalition on Homelessness, the Homeless Task Force, and the United Way. Prentice suggested that the best services being provided locally were those of the Inter-Faith Task Force, a coalition of 84 churches and synagogues that offers food and beds to homeless people from November to April.

Prentice said the mayor does have a homeless fund that helps finance the community groups when they run into fiscal emergencies, but he has never "aggressively solicited donations to the fund, because it could undercut the agencies it was meant to serve."

Speaking for the non-profit Coalition on Homelessness, Anthony Von der Muhll says that concerned citizens can donate to large organizations, such as the United Way, Catholic Charities, and the St. Anthony Foundation, which in turn work with many of the city's smaller "direct service" programs for the homeless. Or people may choose to contribute directly to the shelter, meals, health care, or counseling program of their choice.

One of the most complete listings of such programs can be found in the Haight Ashbury Switchboard's *San Francisco Survival Manual* (call 621-6211 to request a copy). Shelter programs closest to Noe Valley include the Dolores Street

## Merchants Crime Hotline Heats Up After Store Heists

*Continued from Page 1*

the toothless bandit arrived in the neighborhood, merchants apparently didn't appreciate its value because they weren't using it. But the double "till tap," and an armed robbery one month earlier, were enough to shock business owners into action. With Clement's help, the phone tree list went from 20 members to 40.

The victim of the armed robbery was Alexander Gardner, owner of Video Wave at 1431 Castro Street. He said that on April 22 a man he guessed to be about 52 years old came into his shop and browsed for a very long time. "I had a suspicion he was waiting for the store to empty out," said Gardner.

When it did, he walked over to the cash register where Gardner was standing, pulled a small gun, and told Gardner to give him the money from the till.

"I said, 'You must be kidding,' because it looked like a toy gun," Gardner recalled. "I got no sense of a threat of danger from him. I think that if I had just called his bluff, he would have left. But I knew there was a customer in the back room, and I didn't want to risk anything."

"He apologized after he robbed me," Gardner added. "He said he just really needed the money." The thief made off with less than \$100 in cash plus Gardner's cellular phone.

Police were alerted immediately, but were slow to arrive. When Gardner complained to the detective who showed up, the officer apologized and said the force was extremely short on person-power and might lose even more officers from the streets because of upcoming promotions.

With this kind of response problem, neighborhood merchants are going to have to rely more heavily on each other to thwart thieves, Gardner said.

Betty Grandis, owner of the Treat Shop near the corner of Castro and 24th, took matters into her own hands in another way. She drew up some "wanted" posters of the man who stole from Out of Hand and Ocean Front Walkers, and dis-

tributed them throughout the business district. One small problem arose from Grandis' characterization of these thefts as "robberies," which in police terminology connotes a crime of force or fear directed against a person.

"It created a little bit of a stir with people who know what a robbery is," said Officer Perillo.

Grandis said later she was sorry for the confusion, but that she merely wanted to notify her neighbors, so the same man couldn't repeat his crime. She believes there has been a drastic increase in shoplifting and robberies in Noe Valley in recent months, and she is very frustrated about it. "It's not out of the blue anymore, it's constant," she said.

Grandis also sees a connection between the store heists and an influx of panhandlers in the neighborhood. And she blames the growing number of panhandlers partly on the *Noe Valley Voice* for the newspaper's decision to run a sympathetic profile of a homeless man in the April issue. (See this month's Letters section, page 2, for more reaction to the "homeless" interview.)

After reading the story, many area residents started giving more change to panhandlers, and Noe Valley acquired a reputation as an easy mark, Grandis claims.

Even though the two thieves who hit Noe Valley in April and May did not appear to be homeless or panhandlers, Grandis thinks there is a correlation. "Is there a connection between the robberies and the homeless? My gut-level feeling is that there is," she said.

"This is an altruistic, caring area where people are very giving," she noted. In her view, that generosity has backfired and is now causing serious problems.

The Treat Shop owner took her concerns to the May 30 meeting of the Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association. Grandis' husband, David Kerner, is also trying to put together a seminar that would educate shop owners about preventing shoplifting and robberies.

Shelter, 208 Dolores Street, Emergency Housing, 150 Otis Street, and the Missionaries of Charity, 974 Valencia Street. Food programs include the Haight-Ashbury Food Program (566-0366), Food Not Bombs (330-5030), and those offered by Glide Memorial Church (441-6501). Each program has its own special focus.

But according to Von der Muhll, the best way to help the homeless and discourage panhandling is "to work within one's own community and neighbor-

hood. There are resources, if properly pooled and organized, for tapping the productive potential of people on the street, for enabling them to contribute to the health of a community through work.

"This can be done within Noe Valley," he says, "instead of sending money to some distant institution and hoping that it will be spent in a responsible manner."

Von der Muhll points to the success of the Haight-Ashbury Works Program, which "reconciled what used to be a very antagonistic relationship between mer-

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3 BE PROSECUTED TO THE  
FULLEST  
4 ALL OF THE ABOVE  
  
PLEASE GIVE ME A BREAK I'M A SMALL BUSINESS AND  
EVERYTHING THAT IS STOLEN IS SOLEMNLY MISSED CRIED OVER AND BECOMES  
CURSED  
THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!  
KARLA, THE OUT OF HAND BOUTIQUE

Karla Clement has issued this warning to the sort of criminal who stole cash from her Out of Hand boutique on Castro Street.

PHOTO BY ED BURYN

"Maybe if word gets around that we're primed, they [the thieves] will stay away," Grandis said.

Officer Perillo, whose beat is 24th Street and environs, disagreed with Grandis' contention that there had been an increase in robberies and shoplifting this spring. "Our statistics show that there has actually been a slight decrease," Perillo said. "When the same person hits twice, it doesn't denote an increase."

"What I do see is an increase in awareness because of the phone chain," Perillo said.

The last reported armed robbery of a business, prior to the Video Wave incident, was February 3 at Phoenix Books, she said. The one proven correlation she has seen between panhandling and crime on 24th Street occurred recently, when a panhandler was caught shoplifting at Streetlight Records, 3979 24th Street.

Although he was also critical of the *Voice* story, Gardner does not see any direct connection between the homeless issue and crimes such as the one committed against him. He thinks the number of petty thefts and a rise in homelessness are signs of the times, and that they are both citywide problems that over the last two years have begun to spill over into Noe Valley.

"Noe Valley used to be more insulated," he said. "Now, walking down the streets here is almost like being downtown." □

chants and street people," he says. "Many homeless people are willing to work to improve the neighborhood—by doing park clean-up, painting out graffiti, painting houses, and washing windows—and very often this is what leads them out of depression, despair, and drug abuse."

Von der Muhll added that the Coalition on Homelessness would be happy to assist Noe Valley merchants and residents in developing services within the neighborhood. The Coalition can be reached at 346-3740. □

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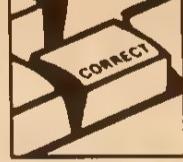
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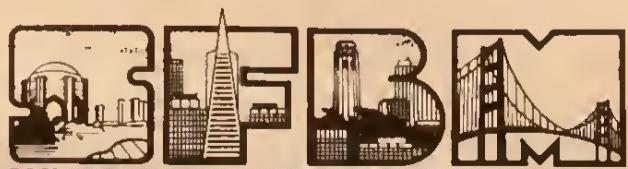
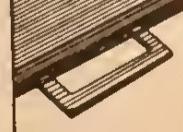
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# Still No Arrest In Duncan St. Arson Case

*Continued from Page 1*

nesses who spotted the man entering and leaving the house, is still being circulated, but so far has failed to trigger any leads.

Partially collapsed, black, and menacing, with shingles that flap in the wind, the structure at 655 Duncan looks like a pied-à-terre for television's Addams Family. According to City Hall records, deLa Cruz's year-old application for a permit to erect a two-story, single-family dwelling on the property is ready for approval as soon as certain fees are paid. But the charred remains of the existing structure have yet to be demolished.

Asked what he intended to do, deLa Cruz said, "We're waiting for a loan, and we're going to build a house as we planned all along. It's been a headache for us."

Other heads, and a couple of hearts as well, have ached on that block. Next door at 653 Duncan, Julie and Tom Meyer have decided not to rebuild. "We're going to sell it," said Julie, adding, "We



*The charred shell of a house that was destroyed in a neighborhood fire last year is still standing, but the arsonist remains at large.*

PHOTO BY CHARLES KENNARD.



*Police are still looking for the suspect in the 655 Duncan Street arson case, described as a white male in his 20s, 5'8" to 5'10", with a stocky build and dark brown hair. Information should be referred to Inspector Joseph Kennedy of the Arson Task Force, 553-9670.*

couldn't recreate what we had there. It's easier to get on with things somewhere else." The Meyers were in New York being married when their house burned down.

Neighbors Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon, at 651 Duncan, returned to their home last January, having been exiled during its restoration. "On the evening of the fire, a friend said, 'Come and spend the night with me.' She didn't expect to have us for 6½ months," Lyon said, laughing.

"I just want to say that a paint job, reshingling, and new rugs are all fine, but we'd prefer to figure out another way of getting them!"

Both the Meyers and Lyon and Martin reported satisfaction with their respective insurance companies, AAA and Hartford.

Forced to find other living quarters for nine months (the side of her building was scorched, and the structure suffered water damage as well), Suzanne Gump returned to her house on March 15 and is "once again a happy person, not smiling through my tears," as she puts it.

But Gump is less than pleased about the brooding presence of the "sort of Gothic" ruin next door. She specifically wonders why there's no safety provision in the city's building code that would have required demolition of the burned shell before now.

And she has thought more than once about the parting words of building inspector John Snyder: "I wouldn't be gardening too close to that house if I were you." And she isn't. □

## Voice Out of Sight (But Keep Us in Mind)

This issue of the *Noe Valley Voice* will be the last one you see until school starts. We're on vacation for the month of July, and won't publish a new paper until the first of September. That gives you plenty of time to compose those letters, poems, and calendar items, due in our office August 15. You also might want to work on your ads: the deadline for display advertising is August 17.

Till then, if you find yourself in need of more *Voice*-overs, take a walk to the Noe Valley Library on Jersey Street. The library has 13 years of back issues, plus an index to the stories. On second thought, just have a nice vacation yourself. □

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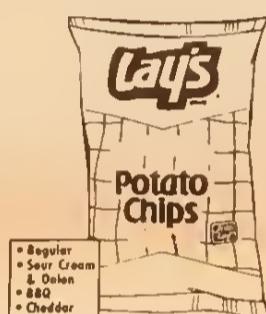
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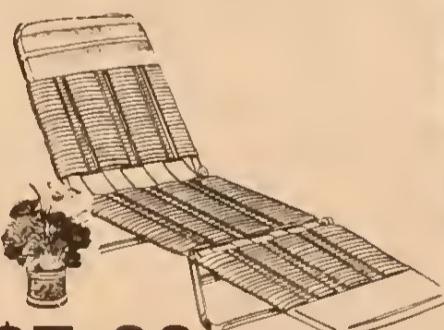
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# Lucille Bliss: Woman of 1,000 Voices

By Marigrace Bannon

Did you know that Crusader Rabbit, Smurfette (star of *The Smurfs* television series), and one of Cinderella's wicked stepsisters all lived in the neighborhood?

Yethsiree, for the past 20 years they've been residents of Noe Street, as part of the thriving menagerie of animated characters portrayed by actress Lucille Bliss.

Bliss describes herself as "an actress who does voices," but after 40 years in the radio, television, and movie industry, she's a Hollywood legend, known as "The Lady of a Thousand Voices."

Bliss started down the road to fantasy-land when she was a mere wisp of a Smurf growing up in New York in the 1930s. "I talked to my dolls," she recalls. By giving each of her playthings a distinctly different character and voice, she created her own special world of stories and magic.

As a teenager in the late 1940s, Bliss got her first big break when she portrayed the perky girlfriend of the puppet Charlie McCarthy on Edgar Bergen's popular radio program. Unfortunately, Charlie's romance was short-lived—not for lack of passion or compatibility, notes Bliss, but because of an abrupt studio decision.

Bliss' blue eyes begin to twinkle as she



*Lucille Bliss, a Noe Street resident, feels at home among the Smurfs, to whom she's donated her talented voice. PHOTO BY PAMELA GERARD.*

remembers that time. "It was a thrill. I wanted to do more. I didn't want it to die that quickly."

Feeling dejected but not dispirited, she immediately trekked to Hollywood, where she auditioned and won the role of Anastasia, one of the less-than-magnanimous stepsisters in Walt Disney's classic animated film *Cinderella*.

"When you audition for a character," Bliss says, "something happens inside. It's an instant creation."

Other parts soon followed, including that of the valiant cartoon character, Crusader Rabbit, a favorite of television viewers from 1949 to 1953.

"I crusaded against oh so many things," says Bliss, slipping into the chipper optimism that was Crusader's hallmark. "Crusader Rabbit freed people from the dragons. He was creative, artistic, and witty. He was a little guy who wanted goodness and kindness to prevail. And I saw that those values were imparted."

These days, as the celebrated femme fatale Smurfette, seen on early Saturday morning television (KRON-TV, 5 a.m.), Bliss reveals the range of her talents. Smurfette is both practical and impractical, gutsy and comical. Her warm voice

embodies love and coquettishness, and there's not the slightest trace of meanness. Smurfette loves animals, flowers, and pretty dresses. She is ultra-feminine. She is compassionate. When her mouse Squeaky died, she wanted to die too.

"I created Smurfette's character through her voice," Bliss says with pride. "I sometimes think she's me."

And Bliss' creation has been a remarkable success: this leading lady of cartoon-dom will soon be entering her 10th year of syndication.

Can Bliss still find it in her soul to portray evil? Colossal Pictures thinks so. She will personify the two-faced Miss Green in an upcoming Betty Boop special on TV. Says Bliss, "Miss Green is a horrible creature," so rotten she even steals jewelry from Betty Boop. Her voice is sexy and alluring, but "you know Miss Green will stab you in the back."

Why is Bliss so good at what she does? "My talent is God-given, and I've developed my gift," but "patience, preparation, and perseverance" are the three keys to success, she says, speaking in her natural, slightly husky voice. "It's taken a great deal of imagination and hard work

as well as an understanding of humanity.... And you have to love your art and have passion for what you do."

Bliss is committed to bettering children's television programming. "I think we should let our children be children—we need to give children ideas that stimulate their imagination." And she has been inducted into the National Academy of Arts and Sciences for her 25 years of professionalism and contribution to the art of communicating.

She has also been featured on the Today Show, Entertainment Tonight, and Evening Magazine, both as Smurfette and as Lucille, herself.

She has chosen to live in Noe Valley, rather than Hollywood, because, she says with a sunny smile, "I like the climate." She also runs her own acting workshop through Rama Production Centre, 241 Liberty Street (824-9714). In her classes, she teaches the young and the old to use what they've got, and to be who they are and who they are not, she says.

And à la Crusader Rabbit, she advises her students to hold their banners high: "Don't be afraid to take risks. Don't be hampered by fear. If you have ideas and dreams, pursue them."

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*Lucille Bliss' television character Smurfette.*

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## Kids Sing to Save the Animals

*Continued from Page 1*

whose parents couldn't afford other programs' tuitions, inspired her to action. Forest's first group didn't focus on environmental issues, however.

"I started this group to give children an outlet for their creativity and expression, making it a positive and nurturing situation," she relates. Forest's own music experience as a child began with studying piano. But because she had no way to express her natural inclination to perform and entertain, frustration set in. "It's terrible," she says, "for anyone to have talent and not be able to use it."

The first Singing Rainbows season began with 11 children, ages 7 to 10, from Noe Valley as well as other San Francisco neighborhoods. After weekly training in basic vocal and performance skills, the kids got off to a great start, making guest appearances at the San Francisco Youth Arts Festival, the city's Other Cafe, and at Berkeley's La Pena Center. One of the Rainbows, Vanessa Marshall, performed with Forest in concerts at the Great American Music Hall and the Masonic Auditorium.

But by the end of 1988, because of scheduling conflicts, membership had dwindled. So Forest decided to put the group on hold and pursue her own career as a jazz vocalist, which included finishing her recording of *A Croquet Kind of Day*, a cassette album released last month.

During that time, she met singer-songwriter Nancy Schimmel. The two women discovered they had a strong mutual interest in environmental concerns, and soon decided to embark on a collaborative project—a recording of songs about the disappearing rain forests, endangered species, and animal rights.

With this new vision in mind, Forest reactivated the Singing Rainbows, selecting two original members and four newcomers. And Schimmel's small Berkeley recording and publishing company, Sisters' Choice, provided scholarship funding.

Intense music-making began in July of 1989, and a month later the group struck off for the Emerald City Recording Studio to work with several renowned musicians, including guitarist Joyce Cooling and drummer Jim Zimmerman. In addition, Schimmel's mother, acclaimed folksinger Malvina Reynolds (who has since died), agreed to write some music for them.

The high point of the project came when the Singing Rainbows' audio cassette, *All In This Together—15 Ecology Songs for the Whole Family*, was released on Earth Day 1990. Forest says the recording "cuts across many musical styles—folk, country-western, contemporary rock and roll, pop ballads, rap, and some Latin." It also exhibits a fresh, natural sound ("there were no electronic tricks in the studio") that's appealing to all ages.



Candy Forest, at the piano, is surrounded by her Singing Rainbows, from left: Melanie Martinez, Peregrine Lannin-Honig, Lesa Cassidy, Julia Kenworthy, Vanessa Marshall, Ariana Dillon, songwriter Nancy Schimmel, and Garnet Herndon. PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP

But she emphasizes, "Our cassette is not just for the music. It's a guide to show kids how to make a difference, how to participate and how to be involved."

The Singing Rainbows agree. "If people don't get the message about how to save the environment, the world will be trashed out someday," says Julia Kenworthy, 10, a student at Douglass School.

Peregrine Lannin-Honig, a 13-year-old student at Everett Middle School, adds, "I never knew that cosmetic companies used rabbits to test their make-up products. I really freaked out. It's real important for everyone to know about this Draize test." The Rainbows' song "Fancy Face Waltz" describes the consequences of such tests. On May 21, Senator Milton Marks and the state senate banned the Draize test in California.

Last fall, a new class of eight Singing Rainbows, made up of both old and new members, was formed. They gave a successful concert at the Noe Valley Ministry in December, to raise money for two earthquake victims: Wind in the Willows Nursery School, on Church Street in Noe Valley, and Salud Para La Gente, a free medical center for farm workers in Watsonville.

Since then, the Rainbows have continued their weekly rehearsal schedule, meeting every Thursday for two hours. And Forest has taken her ecology music program to Parker School in Oakland, as part of a model environmental studies program. She works with 375 primary grade children, and a senior performance group of 20 fourth-, fifth-, and sixth-graders. When the Singing Rainbows were invited to perform at Concord's Lindsay Museum of Natural History on Earth Day, some Parker School children were added to the performance.

"It's fun watching these children gradually get to know each other in this way," Forest says. "Since they all know the same music, it's easy for them to join forces for special projects."

Last month, the Rainbows engaged in a flurry of activities to further their cause. On June 13, their performance of their

most popular song, "I'm a Reptile," was videotaped by Sisters' Choice at Tobias Elementary School in Daly City. It will be used in the future as a fun, musical way to teach kids about conservation.

And on June 22, the group met with Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, who is working to get environmental education and animal rights issues included in public school curriculums. The group presented Pelosi with a framed poster of their album cover, a Singing Rainbows tee shirt, and an honorary membership in the Association of Rainbow Kids, an ecology club founded by Forest and Schimmel.

But the Rainbows reached their pot of gold on June 26, when, at the request of the Friends of the United Nations, they gave a performance at Herbst Theatre to commemorate the 45th anniversary of the signing of the United Nations Charter (founded in San Francisco). Their performance also coincided with a visit from the International United Nations Environmental Team, in San Francisco to talk to environmental activists about grassroots mobilization. According to Forest, it was a wonderful, heartwarming experience for everyone.

The Singing Rainbows are planning to make at least three more recordings, including a lullaby tape, a preschool collection, and a sequel to *All In This Together*. Everett Middle School student Vanessa Marshall, 12, who has been with the group for three years, says they'll be able to do it because "we work as a team. If one of us doesn't know the music, it's not going to work. We have to pitch in by knowing the music and coming to rehearsals, which is a big commitment for everyone."

How did Forest come up with the name Singing Rainbows? "Well," she says, "due to my travels in Florida as a musician, my father called me a rainbow chaser. And he was right, because I've been chasing rainbows ever since."

*All In This Together* is currently on sale for \$10 at Panetti's, 3927 24th Street. On July 15, the store will host an auto-

Many of the Singing Rainbows say that "Home in the Sky," composed by Nancy Schimmel, is their favorite song because it explains all about their love of animals and concern for endangered species.

Following is an abbreviated version of the song.

### Home in the Sky

*Is there a habitat in heaven  
For the species that no longer dwell on  
earth?  
When I book a trip on that old gospel ship,  
I would like to think the dodo has a berth.  
We have cut down the wildwood, the sweet  
waters blessed.  
It must be the eighth deadly sin  
To tear up creation so the birds have no nest.  
I only hope that God will take them in.  
I would like to take a walk with the great and  
little auk.  
I would like to see the passenger pigeons fly,  
And all the feathered folk who have no home  
in this world.  
I hope they find a home up above the sky.*

*Is there a habitat in heaven  
For the species that are still to meet their  
doom?  
When earthly comfort fails for the elephants  
and whales  
Will the pastures of heaven give them room?  
Will the great condor glide over on the other  
side?  
Will I still hear the Bengal tiger roar?  
Will I meet with the shy chimpanzee?  
And if we kill so many creatures on this  
earth,  
Will there still be room in heaven for me?*

Words and music © 1987 by Nancy Schimmel.

graph party, with Forest, Schimmel, and members of the Singing Rainbows, from 1 to 3 p.m.

Anyone interested in participating in the Singing Rainbows Youth Ensemble should contact Forest, at 550-7752, about fall classes. Children (boys or girls) should be between the ages of 10 and 16, and have a serious interest in music, dance, and the environment. Classes are offered at beginner, intermediate, and performance levels. Tuitions vary, and some scholarships are available.

Those who would like to join the Association of Rainbow Kids should write to the Singing Rainbows, 1026 Diamond Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. Members receive official membership cards, along with a poster. □



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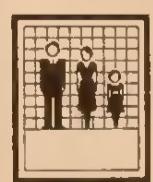
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# Sizing Up The Revamped Residential Zoning Laws

By Addie Lauier

For the past two years, the vast majority of residential building permits in San Francisco have been governed by a set of zoning laws called the Neighborhood Conservation Interim Controls.

These regulations were adopted in response to public outcry over an increase in the demolition of single-family homes, and the subsequent proliferation of boxy, multi-unit buildings—nicknamed “Richmond Specials”—in the mid- to late-1980s. Opponents of the Richmond Specials argued convincingly that they were destroying the distinctive character of San Francisco’s quaint Victorian neighborhoods.

Since they’ve been in effect, the controls have succeeded in preventing the wanton destruction of single-family homes. But they have also created a permit procedure so burdensome that homeowners seeking even minor modifications to their buildings suffer intolerable delays and often need to consult architects just to have the code translated into English.

Currently, there is a four- to five-month backlog of permit applications at the Planning Department.

For this reason, and also because the Interim Controls are set to expire in September, the Planning Department has drafted a revised set of controls, spelled out in a March 1990 report titled the Residential Conservation Rezoning Study.

According to Amit Ghosh, project director for the rezoning study, the department had originally hoped to have permanent controls ready for adoption this fall. But since the “fine-tuning” is taking longer than expected, he said, the new measures will most likely be “another set of interim controls to replace the Interim Controls.”

Meanwhile, to make sure that residential property owners are aware of how the proposed laws would affect their building plans, the department has been conducting a series of public hearings and workshops around the city.

At a well-attended meeting at Upper Noe Recreation Center May 10, Ghosh and study co-author Peter Albert outlined the main features of the revamped controls and addressed some of Noe Valley residents’ concerns.

One resident raised the question: why is the Planning Department giving such



*The survival of single-family residences, such as these along 23rd and Diamond streets, has depended in part on the Neighborhood Conservation Interim Controls, a set of temporary zoning laws initiated in 1989 to stave off the wholesale demolition of residential housing. Since the controls will expire in September, city planners are in the process of revising them, and they’re asking for input from local residents. PHOTO BY ED BURYN*

an inordinate amount of attention to preserving single-family dwellings, when the average person has little chance of buying one? According to the department’s own statistics, 34 percent of the housing stock in the city is single-family, but less than seven percent of San Franciscans can afford to buy a median-priced single-family home.

“We looked into the issue of affordability,” Ghosh responded, “and we gave up on it. It’s not a zoning issue. The houses here are not affordable. What we’re saying is there is a type of housing—single-family homes—which, for reasons beyond my comprehension, this city values. Even if single-family homes are not affordable to most of us, we will [strive to] keep them.”

The planners were also asked what constitutes a “legal non-conforming structure” under the department’s new rules. Ghosh explained that these types of structures might be oversized buildings or cottages at the back of a lot that were legal when they were built, but would not be legal if built today. As long as you simply maintain these structures and do not try to alter their size—either height or depth—you won’t have a problem with the Planning Department, he said.

Ghosh and Albert made it clear, however, that anyone planning to enlarge their building, either vertically or horizontally, should be familiar with the parking, height, density, and depth requirements for their residential area. (See story at right for some of the details.)

Albert suggested that property owners drop by the fourth floor of the Planning Department at 450 McAllister Street and pick up a copy of the rezoning study, as well as a packet of zoning maps that serve as an appendix. “Each of the 144,000

lots affected by the study are shown on 12 different sets of maps of the city,” he explained. Homeowners can verify their property’s current density and height limits, and see how they might be changed by the new legislation, he said.

John Schlesinger, a Noe Valley resident and an architect who has been working with the Planning Department on developing the permanent controls, offered some tips on reviewing the information.

“Examine your map to see if they are ‘downzoning’ [allowing fewer units on] your property,” Schlesinger said. Although there are only 1,800 properties being downzoned citywide, some of them are in Noe Valley, he noted. If you are planning to add to your building anytime soon and you do not already have a garage, or if your property is on a sloping lot, these controls might negatively affect the future value of your property, he said.

Ghosh stated that there had already been strong objection to the parking requirement, but stressed that there would be many more hearings on the proposed controls before any permanent controls were adopted.

In fact, last month the Planning Commission scheduled a series of public workshops on the rezoning study for Thursdays, noon to 1:45 p.m., in Room 282, City Hall (before the regular Commission meetings). The July 5 workshop will cover the study’s height and depth restrictions; parking will be the topic July 12; and on July 19 planners will give a general overview of the proposed controls. (The workshop on demolition and density issues was held June 21.)

For more detailed information or for times and locations of future hearings, call Peter Albert at 558-6310 or Inge Horton at 558-6279. □

## The Nuts & Bolts of New Zoning

By Addie Lauier

Noe Valley homeowners with expansion plans, take heed. Here are some of the zoning changes proposed by the Residential Conservation Rezoning Study, a report released by the Planning Department in March and now undergoing citizen review this summer. (See accompanying story, at left.)

“Density” refers to the number and size of units allowed on a lot. To make one- and two-unit buildings that are sandwiched between multiple-unit buildings less attractive candidates for demolition, the Planning Department is advocating that approximately 1,800 properties be “downzoned.” That means that certain clusters of houses now classified as RM (residential/mixed) or RH-3 (three units allowed) would be designated RH-1 or RH-2, limiting the number of living units permitted on the property to one or two, respectively.

Most of Noe Valley, excluding the 24th Street commercial strip, is already zoned RH-2, but several blocks of houses now classified as RH-3 will be shifted to RH-2. The largest area affected is loosely bounded by Elizabeth, Noe, 23rd and Church streets.

In addition to reclassifying some properties, the city proposes to reduce the size of new second units in RH-2 areas to 600 square feet. This means that if you demolish a single-family home, even if the property is currently zoned for two units, you will not be able to build two full-sized units in its place. Instead, you can build just one standard-size single-family unit and a small in-law apartment no larger than 600 square feet.

A demolition is now defined as “the removal of 50 percent or more of the exterior walls” of a building.

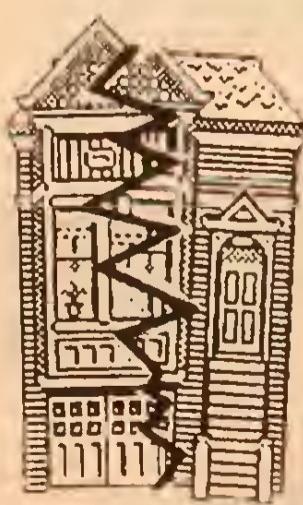
### New Limits on Building Height

The study proposes that five height classifications be adopted, with no exceptions (or variances) allowed. Blocks where buildings have a uniform height will be assigned a limit of 24, 32, or 40 feet—which ever figure most accurately reflects the average height of the buildings. Blocks where the building heights vary substantially will be assigned limits of either 24–32 or 32–40. These mixed blocks will tolerate buildings 32 or 40 feet high, but the top story must be set back from the front of the building at a 45-degree angle.

Buildings on sloping lots (which often are massive outcroppings on the down-slope) would be required to have roofs that are parallel to the grade.

*Continued on Page 12*

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## More Nuts & Bolts

*Continued from Page 11*

### Protection for Back Yards

Because lot sizes vary so much, the study recommends that a parcel's building depth (how far the building extends to the rear of the property) should no longer be determined on a percentage-of-lot basis, but rather by the average building depth of neighboring properties. However, no building can be closer than 15 feet of the rear property line.

The study also would require that the last 12 feet of those buildings that are extended to their depth limit are a maximum of two stories high and set off from the side property lines by at least 10 feet. This would preserve the open space and light of the building's neighbors, but still allow for some expansion.

### A Parking Space for Every 3 Rooms

The Planning Department has determined that "every three rooms in a building generates one car." Therefore, it is recommending that one off-street parking space be provided for every three rooms built, whether those three rooms are part of new construction or a three-room addition to an existing building.

So, if you add one or two rooms to your house, you do not have to provide parking. But if you add three rooms, you must also provide curb or garage space for one car. Note: for the parking requirement only, the department defines a room as 225 square feet.

### Reductions in Red Tape

In an effort to streamline the permit process, the department wants all permit applications to undergo a preliminary



**High Transit:** Up above the Valley, a lone fare waits for the No. 11 bus at Grand View and 23rd streets. PHOTO BY ED BURYN

check to ensure that they're complete when filed.

In cases that require what's called "discretionary review," the number of neighbors to be notified would be reduced to owners of properties within 50 feet of a proposed project. Currently, neighbors up to 300 feet away are notified. The local residents' groups will continue to be sent notices, however.

The period during which the neighbors

could object to a permit application would also be shortened from 20 to 15 days. If no one objects within the 15-day period, the only avenue for later protest would be the Board of Permit Appeals.

Since most objections by neighbors relate to poor design, the "Residential Design Guidelines," which are currently a part of the planning code, will remain in force. The guidelines require that new structures fit in with the character of the

existing buildings in the area.

Homeowners who'd like to review the specific zoning changes in the Residential Conservation Rezoning Study should pick up a copy of the report, along with the maps for their area, at 450 McAllister Street, fourth floor, weekdays between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Noe and Eureka valleys, Diamond Heights, and the Inner Mission are included in Map Area 7. □

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*They're Royal Country Dancing at the Ministry*

## When Scottish Kilts Are Swirling

By Michele Lynn

Although Madonna claims "vogueing" is the current dance rage, in Noe Valley, Scottish Country Dancing is hot. On Thursday nights, the sanctuary of the Noe Valley Ministry is transformed into a festive dance hall as men in kilts and women in skirts practice the traditional ballroom dancing of Scotland, which has thrived for hundreds of years.

Leading the class is Susie Langdon Kass, a Glen Park resident who has been a certified Royal Scottish Country Dancing teacher since 1985. She is assisted by Marjorie Easton, who has been Scottish dancing since she was 12, and Pat O'Brien, who recently passed the examination to be a teacher.

Kass bubbles over with energy and enthusiasm as she calls out instructions to the dancers. "Sixteen bars of crossover mirror reels, every couple crossing at the top . . ." The dance has a language of its own. When the music begins, bodies sway every which way, but generally end up where they are supposed to be.

Unlike Scottish Highland dances, which are usually solo dances performed to bagpipe music, country dances are performed with partners in sets of two or more couples doing a variety of figures. The music, provided by a violin and/or piano, varies in tempo, ranging from lively reels and jigs to elegant "strathspeys," or slow dances done in quadruple meter. Country dance is similar to American square dance.

The class begins with warm-up exercises and stretching routines to get the cricks and creaks out of the body. This is

when the cares of the day dissipate, and students prepare themselves to let go and have fun.

The group then divides into beginners and intermediates. Step practice, in which a dance pattern is systematically broken down, step by step, follows. When everyone has gotten the basics, they walk through the dance. Once their confidence is strong, the men bow, the women curtsey, and the dancing begins. Four or five dances are learned and practiced at each session.

Noe Valley is not just the site of the class. It is also the name of a dance choreographed by Page Street resident Russ King, in honor of the neighborhood where he learned this social art form. "My dance celebrates the fun of cooperation," he says. "It has interesting architectural formations—a little like a Busby Berkeley routine for eight people dancing to Scottish music."

Sid Kass, Susie's husband and a retired chemist, has been dancing for 15 years. He describes Scottish dancing as "full of ingenious scientific and mathematical patterns. You get to dance to great music and use both your brains and your body. This is such good exercise, I never jog anymore!"

Kass also notes another feature about the class that participants enjoy—the fact that dancers change partners for every dance. "It's a great way to meet people, and it makes it easy to attend by yourself."

In fact, the camaraderie is almost palpable—classes seem more like parties than study sessions. And after class, many students adjourn to the Dubliner



Beginners and advanced students learn several Scottish dances a week under the watchful eye of Susie Langdon Kass (facing the camera in the couple at left). PHOTO BY TOM WACHS

bar on 24th Street, in rollicking high spirits and ready for more.

The class at the Ministry is part of the larger, more formal structure of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, which was founded in 1923 in Edinburgh to preserve Scotland's social dance tradition. There are approximately 150 branches of the society worldwide; San Francisco's branch, with its 450 members, is the largest in the United States.

The regional branch, which extends from Monterey to Santa Rosa, sponsors monthly parties, two formal balls each year, an annual workshop, and a summer gala. In addition, local dancers perform at the Scottish Games, a cultural festival held each summer in Santa Rosa.

Becoming a Royal Scottish Country

Dance teacher demands dedication and commitment. The Society requires completion of a course, taught by a master teacher, which meets every other Sunday for seven months in the U.S., or for a two-week period in Scotland or Canada. Students who complete this course must then take another year-long course with a certified teacher. Finally, examiners from Scotland test the applicants' dancing and teaching skills through visual, oral, and written exams. Easton recalls the experience as being "pretty rigorous."

During a recent conversation in Easton's Mission District home (where she moved after 13 years as a Noe Valley resident), she and Kass expressed their passion for the social dances of Scotland.

Says Kass, who started dancing in 1975 and began working toward her certificate in 1982, "There's a magic that happens when the music comes on and everyone starts dancing. I can be feeling tired, and then all my problems evaporate because of the people, the music, and the atmosphere."

Kass' forte is igniting interest in her beginning students. "I have worked out a good sequence of teaching, which makes it easy for newcomers to learn. I think my enthusiasm for the dance comes through."

Her enthusiasm also inspired her daughter, Margaret, to begin dancing when she was 8 years old. "She was a very cute and very good dancer," recalls Kass. Now 21, Margaret is more interested in the latest rock 'n' roll dance crazes than in Scottish reels, but Kass fantasizes that "she will return to Royal Scottish Country Dance—it's like riding a bicycle, you never forget it, and it never leaves you."

Easton, who was born in Scotland, is continuing a family legacy with her dancing. "My father was a Scottish dance teacher. When he started getting on in years, I decided to keep the tradition going." Her mother also provides inspiration for Easton's dancing. "My mother is 72 years old and deaf, and she still is out dancing three nights a week. Dance is wonderful social and emotional support for her."

*Continued on Page 14*



Scottish country dancing, an older cousin of American square dancing, brings out the tartans at the Noe Valley Ministry. PHOTO BY TOM WACHS

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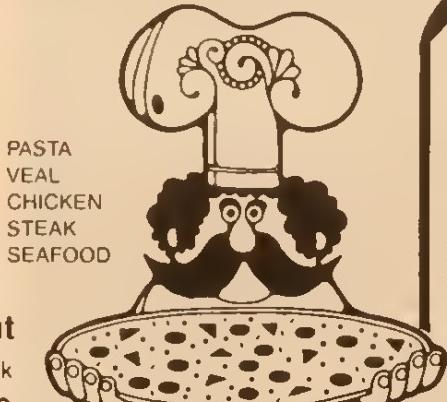
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## Scottish Dancing

*Continued from Page 13*

Memories of her parents propelled Easton from the sofa, to find a cherished picture. "This a 1973 photo of my father with Jean Milligan, who founded the [Royal Scottish Country Dance] Society. My parents went to Scotland for the Society's 50-year jubilee, which was attended by Queen Elizabeth, Prince Philip, and Princess Anne. It was a thrill."

Easton especially enjoys "the historical connection of the dance. It's exciting to think that you're doing a social dance now that's been done since the 1600s."

And both Easton and Kass relish the diversity of their students. "One year our class ranged from an 11-year-old Scottish fiddler to an 81-year-old woman," recalls Easton. "I want to still be doing this when I'm 81!"

The two instructors' involvement in dance is multifaceted. They have both served on the board of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society's local branch, and Kass is the current publicity chair. She Scottish-dances one or two nights a week, in addition to teaching her Noe Valley Ministry class, and takes a class in Engl-

ish country dancing every other week.

Easton regularly teaches out-of-town workshops, and is active in researching and performing each dance published by the Society since 1923. She recently received a grant to research Thomas Wilson, an early 19th-century dancing master in London.

Both women organize many of the branch's events, as well as performance teams that travel to the Scottish Games, senior centers, fairs, and festivals.

And their passion extends beyond the actual dances. After a recent class, Easton blurted out, "I'm jealous as all get-out!" when she spotted the new license plate on Kass' car. It read "RSCDS-SF," instantly recognizable as standing for Royal Scottish Country Dance Society—San Francisco.

A new Scottish dancing session for beginners starts Thursday, September 6, at 8 p.m. in the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez Street. Classes are open to everyone, and no partner is required. Fees are \$30 for a 10-class series, or \$4 per class. To find out if Scottish country dancing is for you, attend a free introductory party at the Ministry on Wednesday, August 29, at 8 p.m. For more information, call Susie Langdon Kass at 333-9372. □

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## Funding Women

# Foundation Keeps the Movement Moving

By Jeanne Alexander

"By writing these stories I have learned a lot about myself and realized how hard it is to pay the bills and take care of a child with only one family member."

"It helped me decide what I want to do with my life in the future."

These testimonials are from two students in the Teenage Mothers Writers Project, based at Kresge College, University of California, Santa Cruz.

The teen writers project is just one of 30 groups, distributed throughout 45 counties in northern and central California, that receive valuable life support from the Women's Foundation, a funding organization headquartered on the top floor of the Women's Building, 3543 18th Street.

The goal of the Women's Foundation is to aid non-profit grassroots programs that serve specific low-income populations—girls, single mothers, lesbians, women of color, disabled women, and older women. Its diverse list of grantees ranges from Asian Neighborhood Design and the Cannery Workers Organizing Project, to Patients' Rights Advocacy Services and the Tenderloin Community Children's Center.

"The need for our grantmaking to low-income and girls' programs grows every year," says Women's Foundation President Norma Fragoso. "The '80s widened the gap between rich and poor, with women and children and people of color hit the hardest."

A wryly humorous flyer on Fragoso's desk depicts a woman typing out a message: "Dear Sweeties, only four percent of foundation money goes to women.... Well, that just won't cut it, so we'll have to do it ourselves, just like always."

Launched in 1981, the Women's Foundation was set up to be more than a non-profit that gives money away. It was conceived as an organization for social change, working to empower women to shape their lives through counseling, job training, workplace organizing skills, English language education, and better access to childcare and health care services.

Start-up funds came from a \$500,000 bequest made by two women: psychotherapist Ruth McGuire, a founder of the Bay Area Research Council, and her friend Louise Hoyt. Through her friendship with McGuire, Hoyt became interested in women's issues and decided to use part of an inheritance to help further the women's movement.

No government money swells the foundation's coffers. Its current support comes mostly from individual donors. In 1989-90, grant allocations totaled \$180,000. The maximum award is \$10,000, with the average being in the



Roma Guy (left), executive director of the Women's Foundation, poses outside her office at the Women's Building with receptionist Shan Goodman. The Foundation helps fund groups run by, for, and about women. PHOTO BY TOM WACHS

neighborhood of \$5,000 to \$6,000.

According to Fragoso, the foundation looks for organizations that have limited access to other funds, and can use the grant to attract monies from other sources.

The Teenage Mothers Writing Project, which encourages teen moms to write about their lives and concerns, is a gratifying example. After winning a \$9,000 grant from the Women's Foundation last year, the project received a \$50,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Literacy Corps Program.

"The Women's Foundation grant was of enormous importance in this," says fundraiser Kay Thornley. "It helped us at the most critical point in our program."

Thornley adds that the writing program will now enjoy a solid institutional affiliation with the university and will be able to broaden its outreach to other high-risk students. It presently serves 17 high school students in Santa Cruz and 28 in Watsonville.

Another beneficiary of the Women's Foundation—this one a bit farther along on the aging curve—is Options for Women Over Forty, a group that also has an office in the Women's Building. Lively, voluble Inez Garcia, 58, and Noe Valley resident Shan Goodman, 60, both trace their current success to help from Options, which got a \$1,750 boost from the Women's Foundation in 1989.

When she arrived in San Francisco from Mexico three years ago, Inez Garcia lacked the kind of English fluency she needed to find secretarial work. Hearing about Options from a friend in her English class, she contacted Sophia Fielding, who runs Options' Latin Employment Program. Fielding immediately found her a job as a housecleaner.

Three months ago, Garcia moved out of the small apartment she had shared

with her daughter and two grandchildren, and into her own studio.

"I feel so happy," she says with a smile, as Fielding translates. "Now I can have company and do my baskets." Garcia, an accomplished craftswoman, is still studying English with an eye toward getting a receptionist job.

Shan Goodman, another Options alumna, came down from the Sierra foothills and went up the stairs to a job at the Women's Foundation.

Last July, Goodman decided to leave her job of 20 years (working for Synanon in Badger, California) and move to San Francisco. Shortly after her arrival here, she joined the Options' cooperative (dues are \$25 a year) and enrolled in computer school. There she trained on an IBM P.C. and learned the Mac-inations of desktop publishing. Since March, Goodman has been holding down the Women's Foundation's reception desk, and producing a few foundation flyers on the side.

"I'm 60 and feeling very enthused about the next decade," Goodman declares in the mellifluous tones of the radio announcer she once was.

Also under the Women's Foundation umbrella is a program called WISE (Women's Initiative for Self-Employment), located at 201 Mission Street. Created to help low- and moderate-income women start their own small businesses, WISE conducts a regular schedule of workshops in business planning, marketing, sales, and finance. It also offers ongoing management assistance and one-on-one counseling for a fee that is pegged to a woman's ability to pay.

Like the Women's Foundation, WISE makes loans on occasion—small, start-up loans for new women-owned businesses. "We are a lender of last resort for

women who can't get funding through traditional sources," says WISE board chair Paulette Meyer. "These are micro-enterprises—we're talking about businesses with one full-time employee." (For further information on WISE, call 624-3351.)

Two other Women's Foundation grantees are located right in Noe Valley: Brava! for Women in the Arts, at 2918 23rd Street, and Tradeswomen, Inc., which has an office at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez Street. Brava! promotes the artwork of black, Latin, Asian, and Native American women, and Tradeswomen provides resources and support for women working in blue-collar jobs traditionally dominated by men.

"Grant-making is the heart of our work," says Women's Foundation Executive Director Roma Guy, but deciding who gets the money is no easy task. A 12-member allocations committee has been set up to review proposals, interview applicants, and select the grantees, but the Women's Foundation often seeks out the advice of community residents and holds "how to apply" workshops several times a year, Guy says.

"Many of the local issues we are dealing with—homelessness, health care, violence—are going to be national issues in the '90s," Guy points out. "Women who needed and received help in the '70s and '80s know what needs to be done and how to do it," and will form the vanguard of social change over the next decade. "[The grantees] are an important part of organizing for equality, and that's our agenda for the '90s."

Women's groups interested in applying for grants should call 431-1290 and ask for a Foundation booklet on funding guidelines. The next deadline for grant proposals is August 31. □

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# Chateau Agape—a Bastion of Brotherly Love

By Grace D'Anca

At the end of a work day, Kathy and Leroy Looper pull their oldish gray Chevrolet into the driveway of their Queen Anne Victorian on Guerrero Street. He opens the trunk so his wife can remove a bulging plastic bag. Bag in tow, she pauses to look at the pink and red roses in their large garden before going through the oval-arched front entrance.

Leroy walks around to the back door, through plots of pansies, marigolds, Canterbury bells, and other blooms mixed in with onions and greens. Water trickles from a fountain, and birds chirp in an aviary at the back of the garden.

When the Loopers come home to their 22-room mansion on Liberty Hill, they are also arriving at Chateau Agape—a board and care residence for the chronically mentally ill. The Loopers have operated the residence since 1978.

Inside, the couple's 13-year-old son, Camlo, rummages through one of four refrigerators in the Chateau's well-stocked kitchen. Many of Chateau Agape's other residents are also gathered in the kitchen and dining room area, which is, as in most households, the main hub of activity.

The Chateau is a dramatic example of the Loopers' strong social consciousness. When they bought the four-story house 12 years ago, the building had been condemned by the city for code violations. Nevertheless, it was occupied by 27 people suffering from various forms of schizophrenia. Instead of kicking the residents out, the couple, along with their four children, moved into the house, launched a major remodeling, and continued to maintain the board and care home. Since then, the Loopers have turned Chateau Agape into a model program in California.

Located at 827 Guerrero Street, between Liberty and 20th, the house is a national historic landmark. It was built in the late 1800s by a construction tycoon and later occupied by John McClellan, a bridge commissioner who added two wings as his fortunes and family grew. In the early 1950s, the house was purchased by a Finocchio's female impersonator, who rented rooms to a dozen old women until the board of health forced him to evict his tenants in 1964.

Then, a new owner, Laura Stevens, converted the property into a residence for people with mental illness. Over the next 14 years, the building faced steady decline until the Loopers stepped in and began its restoration, using a blend of government and private funds.



Thirteen-year-old Camlo Looper sits flanked by parents Leroy and Kathy Looper behind the antique grotto in Chateau Agape's picturesque Turkish Room. PHOTO BY CHARLES KENNARD

"We used to live in a four-bedroom house in South San Francisco, but I really wanted a house in the city. I grew up on Twin Peaks and wanted my kids to grow up in a neighborhood like I did," says Kathy, 42, with a vivacious energy revealing of her Greek ancestry. "I drove by one day and saw the house. I really wanted it, it called out my name! So we bought it."

At the time, the Loopers worked at Reality House West, a re-entry program for recovering drug addicts and ex-convicts in the Fillmore District. Leroy, a former addict and criminal offender himself, established the program 20 years ago, after he came to San Francisco from New York City. The two met when Kathy, then a San Francisco State University student, was working at Reality House as a volunteer.

Today they run Reality House together, at the old Cadillac Hotel at Eddy and Leavenworth, which they purchased and renovated in 1977. No longer a drug abuse program, Reality House now serves as a residence for low-income elderly and disabled people. The program also provides emergency housing for the homeless, and houses a medical practice, women's resource center, and community theater.

When they first took over Chateau Agape, recalls Kathy, "We thought we could have just a few of the residents stay—but how can you decide who stays and who goes? A few of the people have been here since the '60s. So everyone stayed. It was the right thing to do, and we just keep doing it."

After spending their days at treatment programs or volunteer jobs, the residents—seven women and 18 men ranging in age from 18 to 59—like to relax before dinner. Some sit in the garden, others at small oval tables in the wood-paneled dining room, waiting to devour the aromatic food prepared by Anthony Smith, a sculptor and the Chateau's cook for the last 10 years.

Two men in their late 20s sit at adjoining tables. They are reluctant to talk about the house. "It's a place to sleep," is the most that one of them will say.

But Louie, 47, neatly dressed in a brown tweed jacket and pants, is more willing to chat. "I've been here for 16 years—I like it." When pressed for details, he adds with a grin, "I bet I can guess your sign, and I know how you like your steak cooked."

Other residents find refuge in the Chateau's 13 bedrooms, most of which are large, double-occupancy rooms, fur-

nished with brass beds, antique chests, easy chairs, and period knickknacks, along with the residents' personal treasures and pets. Many of the furnishings are collectibles, gathered over the years from garage sales and auctions, or plucked out of dumpsters and refurbished by the Loopers.

The decor is consistent but not careful. Braided throw rugs cover the twists and turns of the upstairs hallways, narrowed by side tables adorned with gilt-edged photos of somebody's ancestors. And at least one of the Loopers' four toy poodles is always about. In short, the physical surroundings are warm and inviting, in keeping with an emotional atmosphere that is loving, upbeat, and secure.

"We give people the best we have. We trust them," says Leroy, propelling his more than 6-foot frame into the conversation. "They give it back to us in good behavior. People don't steal or vandalize. If they take anything, they might take one of the old photos, because they don't have any family, and then they leave the gold frame on the table."

Leroy's jet-black Afro and bounding stride belie his 65 years. He proudly shows every inch of the house, from the seven bathrooms—each sporting a comfortable chair and reading materials—to the basement cellar, lined floor-to-ceiling with canned goods. The adjacent recreation room houses a pool table, television set, and VCR, along with Leroy's sizable jazz and classical record collection—including some original Bessie Smith albums there for house use.

"I try not to get too caught up in stuff that's going to cause me a problem," he says. "I just say to people, 'Play it.'"

Leroy's main concern is feeding and taking care of the residents, the same way he takes care of his family. It's a difficult job on the \$20 a day, per resident, that the city pays for board and care. Yet for that price, Chateau Agape's residents receive three meals a day, plus snacks, clean laundry once a week, medication monitoring, and genuine care for their emotional and physical well-being.

"You have to give people food and a decent place to live," Leroy says. "The residents were born with a chemical imbalance in their brains. They need to be taken care of, and the state mistreats them by not giving them enough money to live on. That means board and care operators don't get paid near what it costs to run a place."

"We really take up the slack for the mental health system, too, because we keep mentally ill people out of the hospital. We save the city hundreds of dollars each day. And at the Chateau, we'll take them back if they have to go to the hospital—they don't lose their home."

The hardest part of his job, says Leroy, was in the beginning, when residents would "decompensate" because they weren't taking their medication. "They would become violent, and I would have to call the police. It took six months to a year before Kathy and I were able to stop it before it started" by learning to recognize the warning signals—depression,

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This landmark Victorian at 827 Guerrero Street, owned by Kathy and Leroy Looper, is home for their family and 18 people living with schizophrenia. PHOTO BY CHARLES KENNARD

agitation, and paranoia. "I also had to deal with my own fears and ignorance about what was going on," he says.

In order to keep the Chateau going, the Loopers work during the day at Reality House, and then come home to supervise Chateau Agape at night. Leroy rises at 4:30 a.m. to cook and serve breakfast. He also unloads the mountains of supplies delivered to the house, and does much of the building maintenance. Kathy works in the garden, and at fixing up the house and furniture. They haven't been on a vacation in 10 years.

Both Leroy and Kathy recently worked long and hard to support a resolution, authored by supervisors Bill Maher and Angela Alioto, to increase the daily board and care rate from \$20 to \$40 a day. The bill passed 10 to 1, and is now awaiting allocation of the \$3.5 million needed to implement it.

Sitting on a bench in her favorite spot—a round, paneled alcove called the Turkish Room—Kathy remarks that "the residents are truly innocents, and they get hurt the most. They could never live in a hotel room alone. Without board and care, where would they be?"

"A lot of them have lost contact with their families. Mental illness is a hard disease; it takes a lot of love. Many families are so worn out that they don't

have any more contact."

The Looper children, ages 1, 6, 7, and 8 when they moved to the Chateau, didn't like living in the house at first because, in their view, it was one of the worst-looking in the neighborhood. And it took them a while to get used to the residents.

"When my parents showed us our new house, I said, 'Forget it, I'm running away,'" recalls Agape, the Loopers' 18-year-old daughter. "It was an ugly mustard color, with weeds in the yard, and the people looked half-dead. They had to name the house after me to get me to move in." ("Agape" is the Greek word for love.)

For the first seven years, the children all hunkered together in the former smoking room off the dining room, and their parents shared the adjoining music room. It took that long before the Loopers felt right about letting their kids use any of the upstairs bedrooms. "We didn't want the residents to feel spied on," explains Leroy. But when the two oldest boys did move upstairs, "it was no longer a 'them-us' kind of thing," he says. "We really became more of an extended family."

These days, the first-floor rooms, filled with antiques and the inevitable piles of papers and objects accumulated by busy people, continue to be family quarters. The Loopers' two oldest sons have moved out of the house, but Agape is still

in the smoking room, and Camlo has shifted to an upstairs bedroom.

Although she grew up in a house the neighborhood kids thought was haunted, Agape is outgoing and confident, and proud of her parents. A June graduate of San Francisco University High School, she plans to attend college and, eventually, law school.

"I guess if you protect something long enough, you learn to like it," she says, flashing a big smile and tossing her wavy pony tail. "I learned a lot living here. I could never be a Republican with what I learned about the government. I can't grow up now and just work to earn money. I want to help people."

Camlo, the Loopers' youngest son, attended St. James School, as did his sister and brothers. Exceptionally mature for his age, he is now a ninth-grader at Everett Junior High School, and says he "loves" living at the Chateau. Some of his school friends think he's wealthy because he lives in a mansion, he notes, but although he sometimes likes to pretend that's the case, he shares his family's commitment.

"The people here are very nice. They really care. Sometimes they need you to listen to their problems," he says, leaning his elbows on the kitchen counter. "And they help with the house, they help with

the garden, and they clean the floors after dinner.

"And my friends like to come visit here. They have fun getting lost upstairs because it's so much bigger than a regular house."

Most residents in the upper-middle-class Liberty Hill neighborhood are also fans of Chateau Agape. They are pleased with the Loopers' property restoration, as well as the way they run their home.

"The Loopers are utterly professional about how they do things. They came to us directly in the beginning, and asked for support. It's been that way ever since," says John Barbey, vice president of the Liberty Hill Neighbors Association. "They're totally dedicated to their calling, and restoring the house is the one outlet they have. Some of us like to help by bringing over plants for the garden, or party leftovers."

Before starting work as house manager at the Chateau nine years ago, Susan Briar, 51, used to drive by on her milk delivery route. A self-proclaimed "beatnik," she admired the house and liked seeing the racially mixed group of people that congregated on the front steps.

"I was glad to see that more than a few rich people were benefiting from such a beautiful house," says Briar, while frying

*Continued on Page 18*



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## Chateau Agape

*Continued from Page 17*

chicken and tending to apple muffins in the oven. "But you could do this in a more ordinary house—it's the love and concern that's the most important thing. The staff has been here a long time, and we all try to work for the residents. It's not any one thing, it's how it all meshes together."

Steadily opening cans and putting pots on burners, Briar kibitzes with incoming residents and relays the day's messages.

Angie, a middle-aged resident wearing a glittery red top, metallic bangle bracelets, and a Joan Collins hairdo, pops in to give Briar a bouquet wrapped in florist's paper.

Briar says that one of the most interesting parts of her job is preparing medications. At first she thought medicating residents violated their civil rights, but she has since come to appreciate the good that properly administered medication can do.

"I've seen how medication really benefits the residents," she explains. "It has side effects, but so does not taking it, like being paranoid. It's nice to see people stabilize and get more functional. It must be frightening to feel like someone is out to get you."

Briar also helps monitor and enforce the house rules. Violence, drinking, and verbal threats are not allowed. Residents must treat each other with respect, take prescribed medications, go to a volunteer job or day treatment program for a minimum of four hours a day, keep their rooms neat, and observe the 11 p.m. curfew. If they abide by these rules, they can stay as long as they want.



Sam, a resident of Chateau Agape, relaxes with a good book while co-founder Kathy Looper tends to a neighboring bed.

PHOTO BY CHARLES KENNARD

According to Dr. Mel Blaustein, Chateau Agape's house psychiatrist for the past 12 years, the Loopers' successful program can be attributed in great part to their team approach.

"There's an esprit about the house, a real team concept," he observes. "We've all been there a long time, and we meet every week to get an idea about what's going on, before things get a chance to go sour.

"And living with the Loopers and the kids gives the residents the message, 'We're not afraid of you.'"

Slender, brown-haired Sharon, 36, likes to sit on the front steps and in the Turkish Room. She enjoys the house after mornings spent volunteering at a senior citizens center, followed by an afternoon support group. Before coming to the Chateau eight years ago, she lived in a variety of mental health residential programs, including a locked ward and a halfway house.

"I consider this the first real home I've had," she says earnestly. "It's so beautiful here, and there's so much love. Anthony, Susan, and the Loopers are really sweet.

They're always watching out for us; they really work to catch our mood swings, they don't want us to fall apart."

Sharon recalls coming home to the Chateau several months ago, after traveling to Boston for surgery on her lungs.

"It was like walking into a palace. Susan and Kathy were in the kitchen working at the new stove. They were so loving.

"I tell Leroy and Kathy that they have an edge on paradise here. I hope it never ends." □

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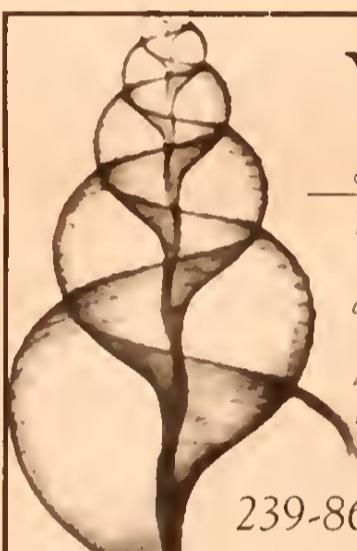
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# STORETREK



Noe Valley is fast becoming the land of cotton with the expansion of Cotton Basics to the corner of Castro and 24th streets. Salesperson Michelle Spindel (left) and manager Kay Lamming are ready for the rush. PHOTO BY CHARLES KENNARD

By Jane Underwood

**Storetrek** is a regular column that features new stores in the neighborhood, as well as existing stores that have undergone changes in ownership or management.

The Voice would also like to let our readers know about any new home-based businesses in Noe Valley. So if you are a self-employed Noe Valley entrepreneur, let us know of your existence, and we'll try to include a few words about you in an upcoming *Storetrek*. Drop us a line at 1021 Sanchez Street, San Francisco, CA 94114.

**Cotton Basics**  
1301 Castro Street  
550-8646

After eight years of successfully sharing a storefront with Cotton and Company on 24th Street, Cotton Basics, owned by Susan Clochetto and Karl Buhler, has pulled up stakes and moved on to more spacious quarters at the corner of 24th and Castro streets (the spot formerly occupied by Castro Pharmacy).

The "new" store, which sells a complete line of women's and men's 100 percent cotton knit clothing—including tee

shirts, sweatshirts, turtlenecks (year-round), shorts, pants, leggings, and skirts—officially opened on May 21.

All Cotton Basics are designed, sewn, and dyed in the company's own workshop. "It's comfortable, casual sportswear, in a whole variety of great colors [over 20], and real simplicity of line," says store manager Kay Lamming.

"One of our customers recently described our clothes by saying that there were 'a whole lot people in Noe Valley running around in jammies!'"

The space at 1301 Castro has "lots more natural light," notes Lamming, to show off the clothing's vivid colors, including heliotrope ("a purplish wine color"), light mustard, watermelon, eggplant, periwinkle, turquoise, and the ever-popular teal, which is "flying out the door."

Business has been "great," says Lamming, since the move. "We're definitely selling more, and it's just amazing how many more men are coming into the store."

Hours at Cotton Basics are 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sundays. Prices range from \$10 to \$50.

**Cotton and Company**  
3920 24th Street  
550-1668

Cotton and Company has been selling colorful, comfortable 100 percent cotton children's clothing, ranging from socks and baby bunting to sweat pants and cardigans, since it opened on 24th Street in 1982.

And now that Cotton Basics has moved up the street (see above), owner Cindy Green is expanding her inventory to include a fun new line of mix-and-match maternity wear—done in the same vibrant colors as her kids' clothing (20 shades, ranging from soft pastels to bright primaries), and decorated with the same original silk-screened designs, splatter paintings, and airbrushed stars and hearts.

Green says she first started thinking

about a maternity line in 1983 during her third pregnancy, when she came face to face with plaid polyester and floppy bows. A former street artist, she started out by selling natural-fiber baby shirts and long johns, at Fisherman's Wharf. Within five years of moving to 24th street, she had expanded her work space to include not only her own Fair Oaks Street garage, but two more garages and two basements as well.

"I began to feel after a while that I was working in the catacombs," she laughs.

By 1987, Cotton and Company had grown so much that Green decided "to make a lifestyle change." So she packed up her workshop—and her three children—and moved to Kalispell, Montana. Now she manufactures her clothing in a spacious old red brick depot (formerly for freight trains) and travels to San Francisco on a regular basis to keep tabs on her two retail outlets (there's a Cotton and Company in Oakland now, too).

Hours at Cotton and Company are 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sundays. Prices range from \$5 to \$35 for kids' clothing, and from \$20 to \$60 for maternity fashions.

**Noe Valley Arts and Crafts Bazaar**  
3920 24th Street, parking lot  
282-8589

Luis Williams, the owner of the 24th Street magazine shop Uptown News, has transformed the parking lot adjacent to his store into a full-fledged open-air bazaar. In mid-April, Williams painted 18 "stalls" on the lot, and began renting these spaces to enterprising individuals who wanted to sell their wares in Noe Valley—without renting storefronts.

"I want to make this space available to artists, craftspeople, manufacturers' and clothing reps," he says, "for selling things like beads, jewelry, socks, sweaters, household goods, toys at Christmas ... you name it. I want a true 'medina,' like in Morocco, with all kinds of goods and festive entertainment."

Williams advertises that he will accept



Cotton & Company, by now a familiar fixture at 3920A 24th Street, has spawned a new maternity line, represented by this over-sized mother-and-child tee shirt. PHOTO BY HIROSHI MORIMOTO

"only good stuff, only good deals," new or collectible, and "no food, no garage sale items, no furniture." So far, he has let space—on a rotating, daily or weekly basis—to vendors selling Peruvian jewelry, sweaters, ceramic dishes, brass and copper plates; Pakistani and Afghani rugs, wallets, scarves, and hats; socks in "billions of colors"; slogan tee shirts created by "a political satirist"; and an assortment of new household goods, at close-out prices.

The Noe Valley Arts and Crafts Bazaar is open Tuesday through Saturday, from 8 a.m. to sunset, year-round. Williams is planning to put a white canvas canopy over the lot during the winter.

Anyone who would like to set up shop needs a seller's permit from the State Board of Equalization. Then just call Williams, between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m., at 282-8589. Stalls rent for a flat rate of \$20 a day, Tuesdays and Wednesdays; \$25 a day, Thursdays and Fridays, and \$35 a day, Saturdays and Sundays.

And if it rains, says Williams, "I'll give you a rain check. I'm trying to make it so that everyone has a success here." □

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## Who's on First?

Stand-up comedian Dennis Campagna says the neighborhood can expect an increase in its collective endorphin count, now that he's launched a weekly comedy showcase at 24th Street's 1st Inning Lounge.

"Endorphins are those little pleasure bubbles that go off in your brain," notes Campagna, who began hosting the Thursday night showcase last month. He says those who attend his comedy nights will find they're "better than drugs and healthier than therapy—a lot more fun and a whole lot cheaper." (They're free.)

The first laugh-in, June 7, featured comedians Ralph Tyko, Diane Satin, Howard Stone, Mike Welch, and John Kennedy, among others. This month's roster includes Bonnie Dat, Gloria North, Dave Braun, Cosmic Joe Finley, Derrick Leonard, and Ed Ginsburg.

The 1st Inning (no joke, that's the way it's spelled—after Eliza Inning, the bar's owner) is located at 4026 24th Street, and the endorphins start flowing at 9 p.m.

## Library Fence Paint-in

The front fence of the Noe Valley Library is about to get a makeover, thanks to the efforts of local artist Kit Cameron. Over the summer, Cameron will assist neighborhood kids, ages 6 to 11, in designing and painting a mural with the theme "What's Inside the Library?"

The project will take place over a period of four Fridays (July 20 and 27, and August 3 and 17), from 2:30 to 4 p.m. The first session, says Cameron, will be devoted to making drawings of "things we like about books." These drawings will be blown up, and in subsequent sessions young artists will use acrylic paints ("as non-toxic as paints can be") to fill them in.

Under Cameron's supervision, the kids will paint the mural on individual plywood panels (this phase takes place outside on the back deck of the library). Once the panels are assembled, they'll be sprayed with a graffiti-proof coating, and mounted on the 5-foot-by-10-foot fence.

Kids who would like to sign up should

## SHORT TAKES



Dennis Campagna heads up a new Thursday night comedy showcase at the First Inning Lounge on 24th Street. PHOTO BY GEORGE T CRUSE

contact children's librarian Carol Small at the Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey Street. All participants must attend the first session, and at least two of the following sessions.

Materials for the mural were donated by the Friends of Noe Valley, the East & West of Castro Street Improvement Club, the Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association, Twin Peaks Properties, and ABA Personnel Services.

## Walk 6 Miles for AIDS

On Sunday, July 22, thousands of men, women, and children from all walks of life will gather at the Golden Gate Park

music concourse, in a public display of determination to fight the AIDS epidemic.

AIDS Walk San Francisco, a 10-kilometer (6.2-mile) fundraising walkathon (to the ocean and back), now in its fourth year, has been called the wunderkind of local AIDS fundraising. Last year's 10,000 participants raised a record \$1,438,818 million. This year, AIDS Walk organizers are hoping for even greater success, and are encouraging would-be walkers to sign up now by calling 896-WALK.

After registering, participants should line up as many sponsors as possible, by asking family, friends, and co-workers to pledge money for each kilometer walked.

Proceeds will be used to provide vital support services to people with AIDS—such as crisis intervention counseling, support groups, legal, financial, and health care advocacy, a food bank, emergency financial assistance, and visiting nurse and hospice care—as well as to promote AIDS prevention education, and advocate for fair and effective public policy on AIDS.

The music concourse is located between the De Young Museum and the Steinhart Aquarium. Walkers should arrive between 8:30 and 9 a.m. Mayor Art Agnos will preside over the opening ceremony at 9:30 a.m., and the walk will begin at 10 a.m.

## Odes to the Mission

The Mission Branch Library is sponsoring a poetry contest, open to both children and adults, as a way of paying tribute to the Mission District's rich cultural diversity.

Poems on any topic, in Spanish or English, may be submitted to the Mission Library, 3359 24th Street (near Valencia), until August 21. The winning entries will be published in a poetry anthology titled *Pluma emplumada (The Quill Pen)*. Francisco Alarcon, Jorge Argueta, Cherrie Moraga, Nina Serrano, and others will judge the entries.

Up to three poems may be submitted. Two copies of each poem, along with a separate sheet of paper that includes the poet's name, age, address, telephone number, and title of the poem, are required.

The Mission Library Poetry Contest is funded by a Partnerships for Change grant from the California State Library. For more information about the contest, call Steve or Barbara at 824-2810.

## 2 Gallery Sanchez Shows

"The Monument," a multi-media exhibit at Gallery Sanchez, 1021 Sanchez Street, will feature four local artists, through July 20. According to exhibit coordinator Phoebe McAfee, the photographs of Tim Baskerville and Don Larsen, sculpture by Patricia Pintner, and

*Continued on Page 22*



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**SALE STARTS JULY 4**

## SHORTTAKES

*Continued from Page 21*

paintings by Kimberly Kradel all share "a certain monumental quality."

"In these works," McAfee notes, "ordinary things take on a monumental, massive quality, even though they may be any size. Viewers are dealing with a sense of scale in relation to their own human size."

Works include night shots of the Embarcadero freeway after the October earthquake (Baskerville), and large format photos of "huge" tee shirts hanging on a clothesline (Larsen), as well as two-part, six-foot paintings by Kradel, and metal wall sculpture by Pintner.

A reception for the artists will be held on Sunday, July 8, from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, call McAfee



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On July 22, the gallery will introduce another show, "The Human Condition," featuring the figurative paintings of Alexandra Feit, James Gleeson, and Mel Tatsahaugh. This exhibit, which continues through August 17, will focus on the human figure.

A reception for the artists will take place on Sunday, July 27, from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call exhibit curator Kit Cameron, 821-4117, for details.

Gallery Sanchez hours are noon to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and by appointment (282-2317).

### Sal's Army Needs You

Major Charles Strickland, administrator of the Salvation Army Adult Rehabilitation Center, located at 26th and Valencia streets, has issued an appeal for donations of furniture and household items.

According to Strickland, donation lev-

els at the Salvation Army have dropped drastically since an initial surge of generosity following last October's earthquake. Springtime calls for pickups, in previous years averaging 400 to 500 a day, plummeted to 250 a day this May.

The Salvation Army provides emergency supplies to areas struck by natural disasters, and Strickland notes that the organization's reserves have been severely depleted by the winter of 1989-90. "With weather patterns we've seen across the world recently, we just don't know what the future holds."

He adds that the center—which houses, employs, and provides rehabilitation for men and women with substance abuse problems—depends entirely on the resale of used clothing, furniture, and appliances for its funding. If the decline in donations continues, Strickland says, the Army may have to consider cutbacks in staff and services.

Home pickups can be arranged by calling 695-8000.

## Parent Co-op Nursery School

Rocky Mountain Participation Nursery School is currently accepting applications for the fall semester, which begins August 22. The morning program for preschool children and their parents is nestled among the pine trees of Peixotto Park, just below the Randall Junior Museum at 15th and Beaver streets.

The curriculum includes gardening, sand and water play, outdoor romping (the school has a new climbing structure), music, drama, block-building, storytelling, science, and arts and crafts.

Rocky Mountain is one of only three remaining parent participation nursery schools sponsored by the parent education program of the San Francisco Community College District. It is directed by a teacher who is credentialed in both parent education and child development.

For more information, call membership chair Karen Heisler at 386-6026.

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## FLORENCE'S FAMILY ALBUM

Illustrated Reminiscences by Florence Holub

### After the Wedding, the War Begins

Last month when the Gorbachevs visited our city, Raisa departed from her scheduled tour to visit a small mom and pop grocery store, the New Terrace Market, at the corner of 17th Street and Uranus, in the upper Market Street area. This visit prompted a flood of personal memories, for my husband Leo and I often shopped at that store after our marriage on July 3, 1941.

We lived, with our big yellow cat, Manfred, just around the corner, in a small "fixer-upper" cottage to the rear of a large, peak-roofed, brown-shingled house on Mars Street. We paid \$17 a month rent, and when a neighbor heard this, he informed us we "were robbing" because the last tenants had paid only \$15. But it was a charming, ivy-covered hideaway, with many sun-flooded windows that provided a pleasant view of the green and flowering rear gardens on both sides.

This idyllic spot, however, did have one distressing feature. To get to our house we had to walk up a narrow open corridor between the big house in front of us and the wall of the neighboring building. This was easy enough until we reached the window of our landlady's kitchen, at which point all hell broke loose.

Our landlady's two dogs, who had been lying silently on the floor until they detected our footsteps, would leap at the window, barking ferociously, frothing and snapping and displaying jaws full of sharp white teeth as they scratched the pane of glass that separated us from them—their claws only inches from our faces.

Our landlady would lightly tap them with a folded newspaper, probably just to placate us, not to discipline them, for she was an elderly widow who lived alone, and these were her protective guardians. Nevertheless, the experience was always completely unnerving and would set our hearts pounding.

The landlady also had a number of cats, one of whom was a frequent uninvited guest in our home. We never knew when we might encounter her, crouched in a corner of the house, appraising us with distrust and possible malice. One night I awakened to see a long stealthy feline form, barely visible in the dark, slowly creeping toward the face of my sleeping husband. Instinctively, I swung my arm in an arc that sent the animal flying off the bed into the blackness.

On went the lights, Leo awakened, and we scurried around searching for the prowler, who was nowhere to be found. Finally we looked under the bed and discovered our own cat, Manfred, wide-eyed and shaking, but fortunately unharmed by the blow. He didn't hold a grudge, thank goodness, and was soon bringing us an assortment of mice and salamanders as peace offerings.

In the fall, long before Thanksgiving, we began to shop for a Christmas present for Leo's best friend, Bob Hanson, who was an Air Force fighter pilot stationed in the Philippines. After days of scanning gift items on display, we chose a soft beige virgin wool sweater, and mailed it early enough for him to receive it by Christmas.

Before we could get to the rest of our holiday shopping, however, something happened that neither of us will ever forget. On Sunday, December 7, 1941, we awakened late, as was our custom, got dressed, and leisurely strolled around the corner to buy the Sunday newspaper at the Terrace Market. There we found the grocer and his wife tearfully telling the customers the shocking news: Pearl Harbor had been bombed in a devastating attack by Japanese bombers. At home on the radio, President Franklin D. Roosevelt angrily and eloquently spoke to the nation. We were at war.

Every block in the city began to learn to live with the possibility of an air attack, under the guidance of a "block warden" who visited each home giving directions and information. During one visit to our house, the warden encouraged us to try to solve the "blackout" problem posed by our many windows. As he departed, he divulged that he had been holding us up as an example to the rest of his wards, saying, "That young couple [us] already has a bucket of sand on their back porch to put out any fires that might be started by incendiary bombs dropped by enemy planes."

We accepted the praise in modest silence, but we were actually feeling guilty: the real reason we had that sand (in a pre-kitty litter era) was to change Manfred's sandbox. As for the blackout problem—we decided to just turn out the lights and go to bed whenever the air raid sirens went off.

All of the fine young men went off to war or into the defense industries. My younger brother, Ward, was somewhere out in the South Pacific, a gunner's mate aboard the destroyer *USS Cassin*. My older brother, Mike, sailed to and from the war zone as sergeant major aboard the troop transport *SS Sea Star*. One day, while unloading troops at Saipan, Mike spotted the *Cassin*, also in port. He pulled a few strings, was given a lift in the port director's gig (a ship's small boat), and sped over to see Ward. The commander of the *Cassin*, thinking an admiral was approaching, had him "piped" (a formal military salute), only to find that the "brass" they had welcomed was just a G.I. Joe. But my two brothers got to hug one another and clasp hands, just before the *Cassin* went out to sea again.

Leo's brother, Richard, an Air Corps test pilot, was sent to England, where he distinguished himself and was decorated by General Spaatz. And Leo worked at the Hunters Point Naval Dry Dock, where, as a ship rigger, he moved heavy equipment—pulling propellers and shafts, and installing gun mounts.

Many months after we sent it, the package containing the beige sweater was returned, and we learned that Leo would never see his friend again. Bob had been killed on the seventh day of the war, and for his heroism he was decorated posthumously. But many young men did come home, to a grateful nation gearing down for peace.

Since then, the years have passed so rapidly that it is hard to fathom the incredible shift that's taken place in world affairs. Presidents Gorbachev and Bush are now conferring about economic exchanges and reductions in nuclear weapons, and East and West Germany are embarking on reunification. Even more remarkable to me is the fact that, as this issue of the *Voice* is being distributed, Leo and I will be celebrating our 49th wedding anniversary!

I can tell you now how our anniversary celebration will go. Leo will take me to one of Noe Valley's finest restaurants, and as the evening draws to a close, he'll say these words: "Want to try for another year?"

I will hesitate a bit, lest he think me easy, then casually reply, "Okay." If all goes well, in exactly one year we will be celebrating our 50th anniversary. □



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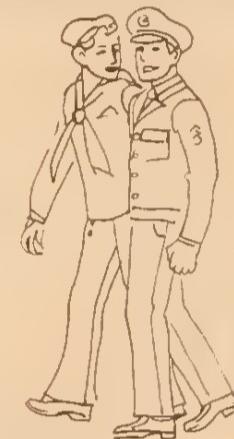
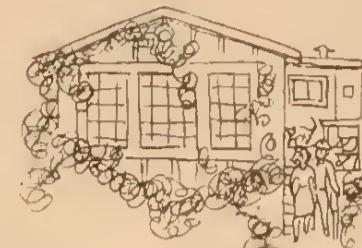
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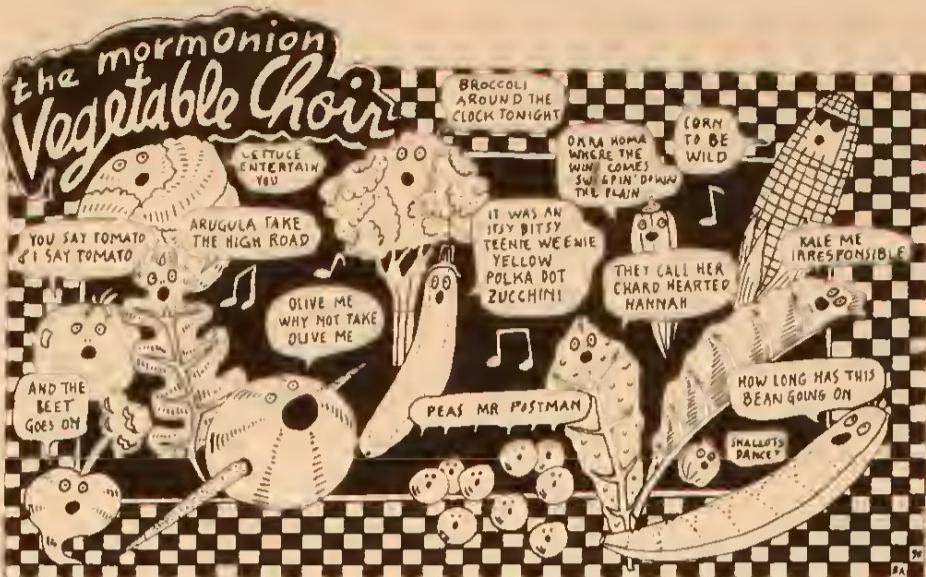


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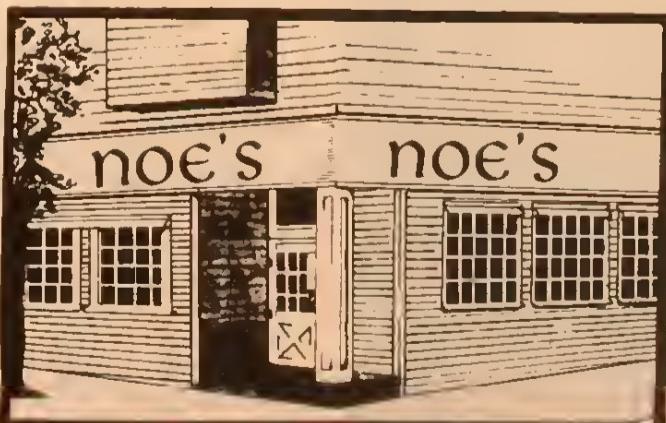
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# RUMORS

BY MAZOOK

behind  
the  
news

THE LONGEST DAY: Noe Valley celebrated the summer solstice, June 21, by basking in a freak heat wave.

As all "real" Noe Valleons know, the solstice is supposed to be opening day for San Francisco's 75-day fog season. But on this June 21, temperatures soared into the 90s.

As Twin Peaks held back the ocean breezes, barbecue scents wafted through the air, and the resonant voice of Hank Greenwald, broadcasting the Giants' too-good-to-last winning spree, echoed between the houses. Coffee-breakers filled the benches of 24th Street, ogling the unusual promenade of shorts and sandals. And everything seemed so peaceful.

But not so, Tonto. Blue Velvet evil was lurking beneath the surface.

Shortly after midnight, within a half-hour of closing time, a Bell Market employee was leaving the store on his way home for the day. Suddenly, a gang of young men—five by some accounts, seven by others—jumped the clerk in Bell's parking lot. Screaming obscenities, they beat him up, then piled into a car, and fled.

According to Bell Manager Stan Lau, the beaten employee, who has requested that his name be withheld, suffered a broken nose, a jammed shoulder, and a gash in the head requiring 10 stitches. Stan added that the victim did not know his assailants.

He is grateful that at least one neighborhood stalwart, Tyrone Saunders, a bartender at Tien Fu across from Bell, came to his aid. During the attack, Saunders ran over to the lot and shouted at the thugs, scaring them back into their car. He then noted their license plate number and reported it to police.

Using Saunders' tip, the police have now traced the getaway car to a Hayward address. Hopefully, arrests will soon follow.

This incident appears to have the markings of a "gay-bashing," but the clerk is not gay, and 24th Street beat officer Lois Perillo says, "We are trained to look for those prejudices, and none were indicated in our investigation."

No matter, it was a disgusting display of brutality.



SIGNS OF THE TIMES: A week and a half earlier, on June 12, many would-be diners were surprised to see a placard on the door at Luisa's Noe Valley Pasta, 3917 24th Street, announcing the relatively new restaurant was closed, for good.

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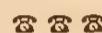
No Job Too Big or Too Small  
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You will recall that Luisa Hanson took possession of what was Mom's Cafe (owned by Lai Sim Lock and her daughter Marguerite) last February, and within a few weeks was churning out her trademark calzones and fettuccini.

Unfortunately for "Mom," escrow never closed as scheduled on June 12 because Luisa chose not to complete the purchase and sale of the restaurant. "I was shocked," said Marguerite, after learning of Luisa's decision. "We've been out almost four months now, and I don't want it anymore."

Luisa responds, "I let it go because there were too many things I didn't know before I took over and too many 'you can'ts' from all the neighbors." In other words, the resistance to Luisa's plans to open the restaurant's back deck ("I'm Italian—we must eat outside!") proved too much to swallow.

Future restaurateurs be advised: the days of chowing and sunning on the Acme deck are long gone.



A QUICK NOTE about the classy eatery La Roca, on 24th near Douglass. After being on the market for almost a year, the restaurant has finally been sold and the A.B.C. application for a change in ownership should be posted soon.

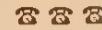
Leaving Noe Valley are the folks who run Play With It, Ltd., the toy store on 24th near Sanchez. According to Bob Montaldo, he and his fellow Play With It owners are taking their trucks, dolls, and balloons back home to their mother store on Haight Street "simply because there was not enough business. The toy business has been bad generally, so after giving it two years with marginal success in Noe Valley, we had to close."

And say goodbye to Dr. Conrad Zagory and nurse practitioner Marc Hansen, who've run a family practice on the corner of 24th and Dolores since 1970. They both will be retiring July 21 and have sold their practice to Dr. John Pierce, a board-certified internist and family practitioner.

To assist in the transition, Zagory and Hansen will be coming in once a week for three months following their official departure date. According to Zagory, the office has approximately 5,000 patients.

"I've been practicing medicine since 1952, and now I want to go out and explore life, visit my children, read non-medical books without feeling guilty, travel (I've never been to Europe), and go places where I don't have to wear a

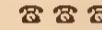
beeper on my hip," says the 66-year-old Zagory. Don't forget to send a postcard, Doc.



NOE VALLEY VOTES: Of the 16,128 registered voters in greater Noe Valley (Diamond Heights included), a mere 7,686 cast ballots in the June 5 primary election. That figure represents a 47.7 percent turnout, and pitiful though it may be, it's six percentage points better than the citywide turnout (41.6 percent).

In the race for governor, Democrat Dianne Feinstein garnered 3,447 votes to John Van de Kamp's 3,153. And as expected, Republican Pete Wilson won his primary in a "landslide," tallying 1,137. His closest rival, David Williams (whoever that is), mustered only 46 votes in Noe Valley.

It's also interesting to note that in the race for Superior Court judge, local lesbian activist Donna Hitchens tallied 4,247 Noe votes in her upset victory over incumbent Jerome Benson, a recent Deukmejian appointee (he got 2,772).



FRIENDS OF NOE VALLEY has come out in its June newsletter with "15 Simple Things You Can Do to Help Noe Valley." In addition to (1) attending the FNV steering committee meetings (held the second Thursday of the month at the Noe Valley Library), (2) buying a Friends' tee shirt or mug, and (3) helping with the newsletter, you are urged to (4) support the branch library and (5) the library's mural project (see this month's *Short Takes for the scoop*). Or how about (6) helping to water the trees at James Lick, or (7) just simply planting your own tree.

You can also (8) fight litter on 24th Street, (9) keep your own block clean, of course, (10) paint out graffiti alongside Fred Methner, and (11) complain to building owners about poorly maintained vacant storefronts.

Friends suggests that everyone (12) form a neighborhood SAFE group and (13) use the Community Police Officer Program (CPOP). And finally be sure to (14) contribute to the Noe Valley Archives any local memorabilia you might have, and (15) recycle at a non-profit neighborhood center.



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Only one of the foregoing is on EarthWorks' famous list of 50 Simple Things You Can Do to Save the Earth. You guessed it: kvetch about vacant storefronts. (No, just kidding, it's "plant a tree," naturally.)

By the way, FNV's presidency is up for grabs, so if you want to be a leader in the neighborhood, you can volunteer at the next steering committee meeting.



TEENSPEAK: Just before graduation day, the *Voice* did an informal survey of students at two local high schools, McAteer and Mission. One of the questions we asked was, "What issues or stories would you like to see the *Voice* cover?"

Many students left the question blank or said they'd never heard of us. (Thanks a lot, gang.) But some zeroed in on some hot topics. One Mission High student told us to write about "how students who don't seem to care about education end up." Out in the cold, I guess.

Other Mission seniors recommended "issues about sex before marriage, abortion, and drugs" and stories on "teen pregnancy and date rape."

One 17-year-old McAteer student asked us to cover "the abusive (verbal) treatment of students by teachers. There is no respect for a student's rights as a human or U.S. citizen. Discipline problems are not taken care of through the means of positive reinforcement and not really dealt with at all."

"Those students with disruptive behavior are cast aside instead of helped in correcting their attitudes," the student went on. "Being expelled is something these students would be thankful for. Who does that help? Not our society, our homeless, our gang wars, nor our drug addicts!"

Good point.

Another question the *Voice* asked was, "Who do you admire or look up to?" Several students listed well-known figures like Martin Luther King, Abraham Lincoln, Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, Meryl Streep, Eddie Murphy, Arsenio Hall, Jodie Foster, Walt Disney, Hulk Hogan, and Rambo (please).

But most named a member of their family. "My mom" was the number one response.

Bye, kids. See you in September. □

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# MORE MOUTHS to feed.

By Jane Underwood

## Emmett Maxwell Barnard

Since the day of his birth at Pacific Presbyterian Hospital August 27, 1989, Emmett Maxwell Barnard has literally followed in his politically-oriented parents' footsteps. He's pressed the flesh at meetings of the San Francisco Housing and Tenants Council and the Democratic Club, as well as attended several hearings and endorsement pow-wows at City Hall around election times.

"Emmett's a very easy, outgoing little guy," says his dad, Hank, a political campaign consultant and full-time househusband. "He doesn't mind being passed around at the meetings—he likes people."

"I would describe him as perfect," adds his completely unbiased mom, Bar-

bara O'Hearn, who works as the deputy director of the San Francisco Rent Stabilization Board.

Emmett, who weighed 7 pounds, 9 ounces, at birth, even picked a considerable time (5:30 p.m.) to be born. And he's been sleeping through the night almost from the word go.

When the family isn't marching down to City Hall, they're enjoying Noe Valley and "the real sense of community" they find here. Barbara, 39, and Hank, 40, moved to the neighborhood 2½ years ago. They originally met in Santa Monica (at a rent control board meeting, of course), and got married five years ago.

When Emmett was 4 months old, Barbara went back to work full-time, and Hank took over at home, hanging out with Emmett and his associates—mostly stuffed animals and paper bags.

"I like being a househusband," he says. "When we leave the house, we take walks down 24th Street. Emmett's favorite places to go are Cover to Cover—it's a good place for grabbing things—Happy Donuts [now Evonne's Donut Shop], Hopewell's, and Noe Courts."

Hank, a sports fan and softball player, has taken his pint-sized progeny to a few baseball games, but wonders whether Emmett might prefer a career in basket-

ball. "He loves watching it on TV," says Hank. "He'll perk right up and start watching as soon as it comes on, and when there's a commercial, he pays no attention."

Emmett's love of sports meshes nicely with his current interest in rhythm and motion, adds Barbara. "He has just learned to clap his hands," she says, "and he can do lots of roll-overs, especially when you're trying to change his diapers!"

Emmett's athletic tour de force, however, is crawling at breakneck speed down the couple's 26-foot hallway—backwards. "If we hold out our arms to him, and coax him to crawl forward, he just laughs and keeps on going the other way," says his mom, who gets a good workout chasing her little tease around.

Fortunately, Barbara doesn't mind a bit. "I didn't know how much I could love a child, or my husband," she says. "But Emmett has expanded my capacity to love." □



Emmett Maxwell Barnard has proven to be the perfect politically correct companion for parents Barbara O'Hearn and Hank Barnard  
PHOTO BY ED BIRYN

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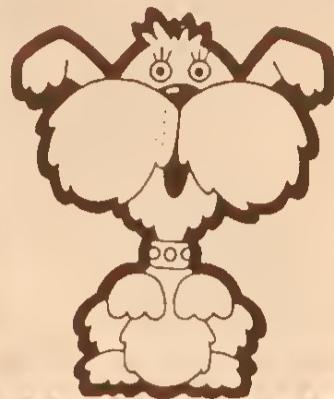


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## MORE Books to Read

Put down this newspaper, and go check out something really edifying (or entertaining) at the neighborhood library, 451 Jersey St. Here are some suggestions, offered by Noe Valley Word-Keepers Roberta Greifer and Carol Small. The branch is open Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 6 p.m.; Wednesdays, 1 to 9 p.m.; and Thursday through Saturday, 1 to 6 p.m. Phone number: 285-2788.

### Adult Fiction

Actor Kirk Douglas' *Dance with the Devil* is an erotic page-turner that revolves around a middle-aged film director and his secret from the past.

Set in New Orleans at the time of World War II, *The God of Nightmares*, by Paula Fox, is a coming-of-age novel about a young woman's loss of innocence.

Dramatically capturing the clash between East and West, *The Second Son of Heaven*, by C. Y. Lee, takes place in China in the early 19th century.

In *Sullivan's Sting* by Lawrence Sanders, crime and romance mix when undercover cop Rita Sullivan falls for the man she's supposed to entrap.

### Non-Fiction

*Dr. Susan Love's Breast Book*, by breast surgeon Susan Love, is a comprehensive guide to breast development, breast-feeding, and the treatment and prevention of breast cancer.

*An Ear to the Ground*, edited by Marie Harris and Kathleen Aguero, is a multicultural anthology of contemporary American poetry.

With 155 illustrations, *Mummies, Myth, and Magic*, by Christine El Mahdy, covers the practice of mummification and the role it played in ancient Egypt.

Including authors as diverse as Amy Tan, Jack London, and Rudyard Kipling, *San Francisco Stories*, edited by John Miller, features non-fiction and fiction works on San Francisco by writers who've been here.

### Children's Fiction

*In Long Way Westward* by Joan Sandin, the reader (ages 5 to 7) follows Jonas and Carl Erik and their parents on a seemingly endless journey from Castle Garden to their new home in Anoka, Minnesota; Allen Say's *The Lost Lake*, aimed at 6-to 9-year-olds, is about a camping trip taken by Luke and his father, during which they enjoy the outdoors and grow closer to one another.

*Swan Lake*, adapted by dancer Margot Fonteyn and beautifully illustrated by Trina Schart Hyman, is the haunting tale on which the famous ballet is based (for ages 8 and older).

*Shabani*, by Suzanne Fisher Staples, is the story of an 11-year-old Pakistani girl who is brave enough to rebel against the marriage plans made for her by her family. It is geared for readers 11 and up.

### Children's Non-Fiction

Did you know that there were many small dinosaurs who never achieved the notoriety of Tyrannosaurus Rex or Triceratops? *Mussaurus*, for example, was only 8 inches long. Bernard Most's book *The Littlest Dinosaurs* will tell readers 4 to 7 all about Mussaurus and his associates.

*Sterling: the Rescue of a Baby Harbor Seal*, a book for kids 5 and older by Sandra Verrill White and Michael Filisky, shows how Sterling was rescued, nursed back to health, and then freed by the staff of the New England Aquarium.

With *The City Kid's Field Guide* by Ethan Herberman, San Francisco youngsters (7 and up) can identify much of the small wildlife in or near their home.

Kids 9 and up who enjoy planting seeds in the ground, and then seeing what shoots up, will get lots of helpful tips from *The Victory Garden Kids' Book*, written by Marjorie Waters.

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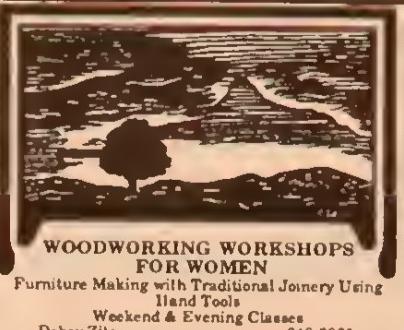
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**FRENCH TEACHER** at major language school in San Francisco will give private classes tailored to your needs at home or office. Call Mireille, 695-9073.

**SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING** at Noe Valley Ministry. Thursdays, 8 p.m. Learn lively jigs and reels. No partners needed. New beginners session starts September 6. \$4/class; \$30/10 classes. Free introductory party: Wednesday, August 29, 333-9372.

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**WRITER'S WORKSHOP** Beginners to advanced. Free. Meets Wednesday mornings starting August 22 at Aquatic Park Senior Center, Room 6, 9:30 to 12:00. For further information call Toni Mester after 8/16/90 at 848-8287.

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**PART-TIME OFFICE HELP**. Potrero Hill office needs part-time, clerical help, 10-15 hours per week. Must be available between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Specific days and additional hours are flexible. Good organizational and phone skills required. Non-smokers only. Write P. Hamilton at 1426 18th Street, 94107, for application.

**KARATE CLASSES** for kids and adults. For information call Randi, 474-8763.

## How to Use Voice Class Ads

The rate for classified advertising in the *Noe Valley Voice* is 25¢ a word. Just type or print your copy, multiply the number of words by 25¢, enclose a check or money order for the full amount, and mail it to us by the 15th of the month preceding the month of issue.

(It would also be a big help if you would indicate whether you are renewing an ad from a previous issue, and include the old copy with your renewal.)

Our address is 1021 Sanchez Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. Note: Since the *Voice* staff is on vacation during the month of July, the next issue will appear September 1, 1990. Please mail your ad and check—made payable to the *Noe Valley Voice*—so that we receive it by August 15. Sorry, but we are unable to take phone or drop-in orders.

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**POETRY WANTED:** The Noe Valley Voice welcomes submissions of poetry from residents of Noe Valley, Eureka Valley (the Castro), Diamond Heights, the Mission and Glen Park neighborhoods. Poems should be related to neighborhood themes, people or places. Payment: \$10 to \$40 per poem, upon publication. Send submissions with self-addressed, stamped envelope (and a phone number, please) to the Noe Valley Voice, c/o Jane Underwood, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114

**LICENSED PAINTER.** Large and small jobs. Expert plaster repair. References. Please call 995-4666.

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**RWARD!** Still seeking professional office space. Psychotherapy or health-related setting or separate office in private home. Noe Valley/Eureka/Castro or vicinity. Reward paid if space rented. 285-1769.

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**TENDER LOVING CARE** Petitting and Dogwalking for peace of mind and happy pets. Established 1983. Reasonable, reliable, references Debra, 776-7566

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**ANXIETY ATTACKS** can add more stress to an already stressful life. Get help from a therapist experienced in the treatment of anxiety problems. Valerie Hearn, Ph.D. 824-3701.

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**WANTED FOR SUBLET:** One compulsively clean, non-smoking human, for sublet in beautiful Victorian flat in Noe Valley August 5 to 23. Hot tub plus amenities. Rent commensurate with qualifications. 647-6640

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**JOURNEY INTO MOTHERHOOD:** a journal workshop for pregnant women and new mothers. Focus on our birth process, mothering, and ourselves. Weekly workshops start August. Call Leslie, writer/teacher/mother. 285-1926

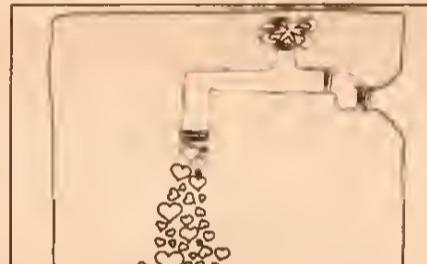
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# C A L E N D A R

**JULY 1-14:** The Eureka Theatre Company will move outdoors for its presentation of *OAK CIRCUS*, a new play by Bindlestiff Productions featuring a troupe of performers who are brutally oppressed by their chosen god. Fri. & Sat., 11 pm. 2730 16th St. 558-9898.

**JULY 1-15:** The experimental theater group THICK DESCRIPTION continues its production of *Wha 1, Whai, A Long Long Time Ago*, Korean novelist Ch'oe In-hun's play about the birth of a divine being into a poor rural family. Thurs.-Sun., 8:30 pm. Mission Cultural Center, 2868 Mission St. 863-7058.

**JULY 1-20:** GALLERY SANCHEZ presents "The Monument," displaying art work by Tim Baskerville, Kimberly Kradel, Oon Larsen, and Patricia Pintner. Mon.-Sat., noon-5 pm; reception Sun., July 8, 11:30 am-2 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 262-3448.

**JULY 1-31:** Rhys McClure exhibits her recent WATERCOLORS, monoprints, and landscapes at the Courtyard Cafe, 3913 24th St. 282-0344.

**JULY 3-AUG. 11:** "Homenaje a Ralph Maradiaga" is a RETROSPECTIVE exhibition of the art and film work, curatorial contributions, and community activism of the co-founder of Galeria de la Raza. Tues.-Sat., noon-6 pm; reception Fri., July 6, 7-9 pm. 2857 24th St. 826-8009.

**JULY 4-15:** "Solo Journeys" features one-person PERFORMANCES by Ken Whipple in "Doug Beale: Allana 1983" and Anna Deavere Smith in "On the Road: San Francisco 1990." Wed.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 7:30 pm; Sun. matinees July 1 & 8, 2 pm. Eureka Theatre Co., 2730 16th St. 558-9898.

**JULY 4-21:** Carter Norback exhibits TEMPERA PAINTINGS with an architectural point of view. Wed.-Sat., noon-5 pm. Fobbo Gallery, 3747 23rd St. 695-0640.

**JULY 5, 12, 19 & 26:** A funny thing happens when STAND-UP COMEDY, featuring Dennis Campagna and friends, comes to the 1st Ining Lounge every Thursday. 9 pm. 4026 24th St. 826-1914.

## JULY 1990

**JULY 5:** Post Time, a BARBERSHOP QUARTET, presents a program of ballads and upbeat tunes interspersed with comedy. Noo Lure Room, S.F. Main Library, Civic Center. 552-9081.

**JULY 5-29:** Ray Beldner exhibits sculpture consisting of layered found objects depicting body organs, and JP Collins shows black, white and grey MIXED MEDIA paintings that offer commentary on urban landscapes. Thurs.-Sun., noon-5 pm; reception Sun., July 8, 2-5 pm. Alligator Gallery, 924 Valencia St. 695-0845.

**JULY 6-8:** Inside Fireworks Gallery presents a "Breakdown Weekend" OPEN STUDIO including environmental installations, dance performance, fashion show, and a kitsch auction. 6-10 pm. 3666 26th St. 826-5847. 826-1148 or 255-1276.

**JULY 6-21:** Kay Elizabeth performs a ONE-WOMAN SHOW of *Ntozake Shange's For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow Is Enuf*. Fri. & Sat., 8 pm. Polkero Hill Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro St. 839-9271.

**JULY 7:** Mission District band Conjunto Los Compas performs "An Evening of SALSA for the New Song," exploring Latin jazz to Tex-Mex folklore to Afro-Cuban rhythms. 9 pm-1 am. New College Auditorium, 777 Valencia St. 252-5957.

**JULY 7:** Learn how to COMPACT in the city at a basic workshop including demonstrations, discussion, and "group composing" activities. 11 am-1 pm. Garden for the Environment, 7th Ave. at Lawton. Call 468-0110 to sign up.

**JULY 7:** Champion fiddler/vocalist LAURIE LEWIS performs innovative country-tinged music with her hot bluegrass band. Grant Street. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 647-2272.



Sonja celebrates Inside Fireworks in her long pink spandex gloves, along with other surprises at the Open Studio July 6-8. PHOTO BY LAURA WAGNER

**JULY 7-10:** The Film Arts Foundation presents the West Coast premiere of "Sacred Games," Thor Anderson's documentary film of the contemporary MAYA INDIANS of Mexico, and "Popol Vuh." Patricia Arlín's animation retelling of the creation myth of the ancient Maya. York Theatre, 2789 24th St. Call 282-0316 for information and show times.

**JULY 8:** ASWAN DANCERS Amina and Shamira, along with Susu and the CAIRO CATS, offer a tribute to 50 years of belly dance history in their Middle-Eastern Cabaret, Fashion Show, and Bazaar at the Noe Valley Ministry. 3:30-6 pm. 1021 Sanchez St. Call 282-7910 or 992-1224 for advance tickets.

**JULY 9:** Walter Traverso will provide the music for the Bastille Day DANCE at the Diamond Senior Center. 1-3 pm (lunch starts at noon). 117 Diamond St. 863-3507.

**JULY 10, 17 & 31:** The library's preschool story time is a READING-ALOUD program for children 3 to 5 years old. 10 am. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 285-2788.



The Edlos lose their heads over a capella at the Noe Valley Music Series on Bastille Day

**JULY 11:** David Beers, senior editor of MOTHER JONES, discusses why Congress is reluctant to give up the military industrial complex. 7:30 pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. 282-9246.

**JULY 11-29:** Intersection for the Arts' 1989 ARTISTS-IN-RESIDENCE, Elbows Akimbo, present "Carne Vale (farewell to the flesh)," an evening of SONG AND DANCE, circus tricks and charlatan schticks. Wed., July 11, and Thurs. Sun., 8:30 pm; Sun., 2 pm. 446 Valencia St. 626-2787.

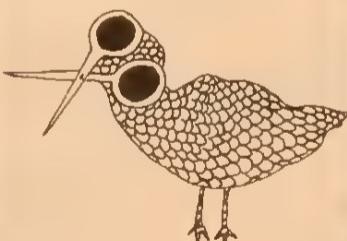
**JULY 12:** DIANE OI PRIMA reads from her book *Pieces of a Song (Selected Poems)*. Old Wives' Tales, 1009 Valencia St. 821-4675.

**JULY 14:** The Edlos, known as the "bad boys of A CAPPELLA," bring their Harmony Sweepstakes triple crown winning voices to the Noe Valley Music Series. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 647-2272.

**JULY 15:** Join editor/cartoonist Trina Robbins at a PRO-CHOICE Comic Book Party given in response to the July 3, 1989, Supreme Court decision. 7:30 pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. 282-9246.

**JULY 15:** The SINGING RAINBOWS Youth Ensemble will autograph copies of their new release of ecology songs, *All In This Together*. 1-4 pm. Panetti's, 3927 24th St. 550-7752.

**JULY 19, 20, 21, 27 & 28:** Circuit Network presents a mini PERFORMANCE FESTIVAL featuring Oakland artist Mario and new works by the Los Angeles Poverty Department (LAPD). 8 pm. New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St. 346-9963.



**JULY 20:** Gwen Avery performs "Sugar Mamma" fusion BLUES, powerful gospel, and her unique "this is music" sound. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 895-6221.



**JULY 20 & 21:** The dancing and three-world choreographies of ROSA MONTOYA will be featured at the 17th home season of her 8ailes Flamenco. 8 pm. Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness Ave. 931-7374.

**JULY 20 & 27, AUG. 3 & 17:** Children 6 to 11 are invited to participate in the design and painting of a MURAL on the front fence of the Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 2:30-4 pm. Please sign up with Carol Small, the children's librarian, during regular library hours. 285-2788.

**JULY 21:** Deadline for submissions to the Mission Library's POETRY CONTEST to celebrate the Mission District's rich cultural diversity. 3359 24th St. For more info, call Steve or Barbara at 824-2810.

**JULY 21:** Aymura performs haunting traditional and contemporary MUSIC OF THE ANDES on pan-pipes, charango, quena and drums. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 647-2272.

**JULY 22:** "What About the Rest of My Life" is the question addressed at a WORKSHOP in Glen Park for men and women over 40. For information and a descriptive flyer, call Jeanne Adelman at 585-0666.



The artwork, film, and activism of the late Ralph Maradiaga are remembered in a five-week retrospective at the Galeria de la Raza, with a reception July 6.

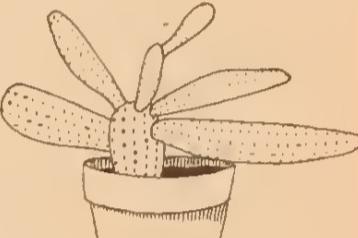
**JULY 22:** The fourth annual AIDS WALK San Francisco will begin and end in Golden Gate Park and follow a 10-kilometer route along the ocean. Walkers should arrive between 8:30 and 9 a.m. at the music concourse, located between the De Young Museum and Steinhart Aquarium. Mayor Art Agnos will preside over opening ceremonies at 9:30 a.m., and the walk begins at 10 a.m. To pre-register or contribute, call 896-WALK.

**JULY 22-AUG. 17:** "The Human Condition" is an ART EXHIBIT featuring the work of Alexandra Feit, James Gleeson and Mel Talsabaugh. Mon.-Sat., noon-5 pm; reception Sun., July 22, 11:30 am-2 pm. Gallery Sanchez, Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 282-3448.

**JULY 24:** Preschoolers are invited to watch the videos "Boy, a Dog and a Frog," "Tale of Peter Rabbit," and "Tale of Tom Kitten." 10 & 11 am. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 285-2788.

**JULY 24:** VIDEOS for children age 6 and up include "Beast of Monsieur Racine," "Boy, a Dog and a Frog," and "Peter and the Wolf." 3:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 285-2788.

**JULY 24:** Sevika McStravik leads a DEEP RELAXATION workshop at Integral Yoga Institute. 7:30-9 pm. 770 Dolores St. 821-1117.



**JULY 25:** The public is invited to the Parking and Traffic Commission's forum on the Castro District's traffic and PARKING PROBLEMS. 7 pm. Douglass School, 4235 19th St. 558-4675.

**JULY 27:** MOTHER TONGUE Feminist Theatre Collective performs "Work-Script." 7:30 pm. Old Wives' Tales, 1009 Valencia St. 821-4675.

**JULY 28:** Bass and shakuhachi player DAVID FRIESEN joins East German-born guitarist UWE KROPINSKY for an evening of musical improvisation. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 647-2272.

**JULY 28:** Psychic Horizons sponsors a PSYCHIC READING FAIR. 2-4 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 346-7906.

**JULY 29:** For sociability and exercise, come to a free introductory SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING party. 8-10 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St.

**JULY 31:** SENATOR QUENTIN KOPP will speak on a proposed moratorium on new liquor licenses in the Mission at a meeting of the Mission District Community Relations Council. 7 pm. Bay View Federal Savings, 2601 Mission St. For more info, call Hilda Bernstein, 282-8232, or John Barbe, 695-0990, of the Liberty Hill Neighborhood Association.

**AUG. 18:** Playing on Indian, Asian, Irish and medieval instruments, the Blue Rubies expand the boundaries of "new folk" music at the Noe Valley Music Series. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 647-2272.

**AUG. 25:** Pre-register to learn "Secrets of VEGETARIAN COOKING," taught by Shraddha Boyd. 9:30 am-2:30 pm, including lunch. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. 821-1117.

## The Scoop on CALENDAR

Please send calendar items before the 15th day of the month preceding the month of issue to the Noe Valley Voice, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Items are published on a space-available basis, with Noe Valley neighborhood events receiving priority. Note: The Voice is on a one-month vacation, so the next issue will appear Sept. 1 and will cover September calendar events. The deadline for items is Aug. 15.

